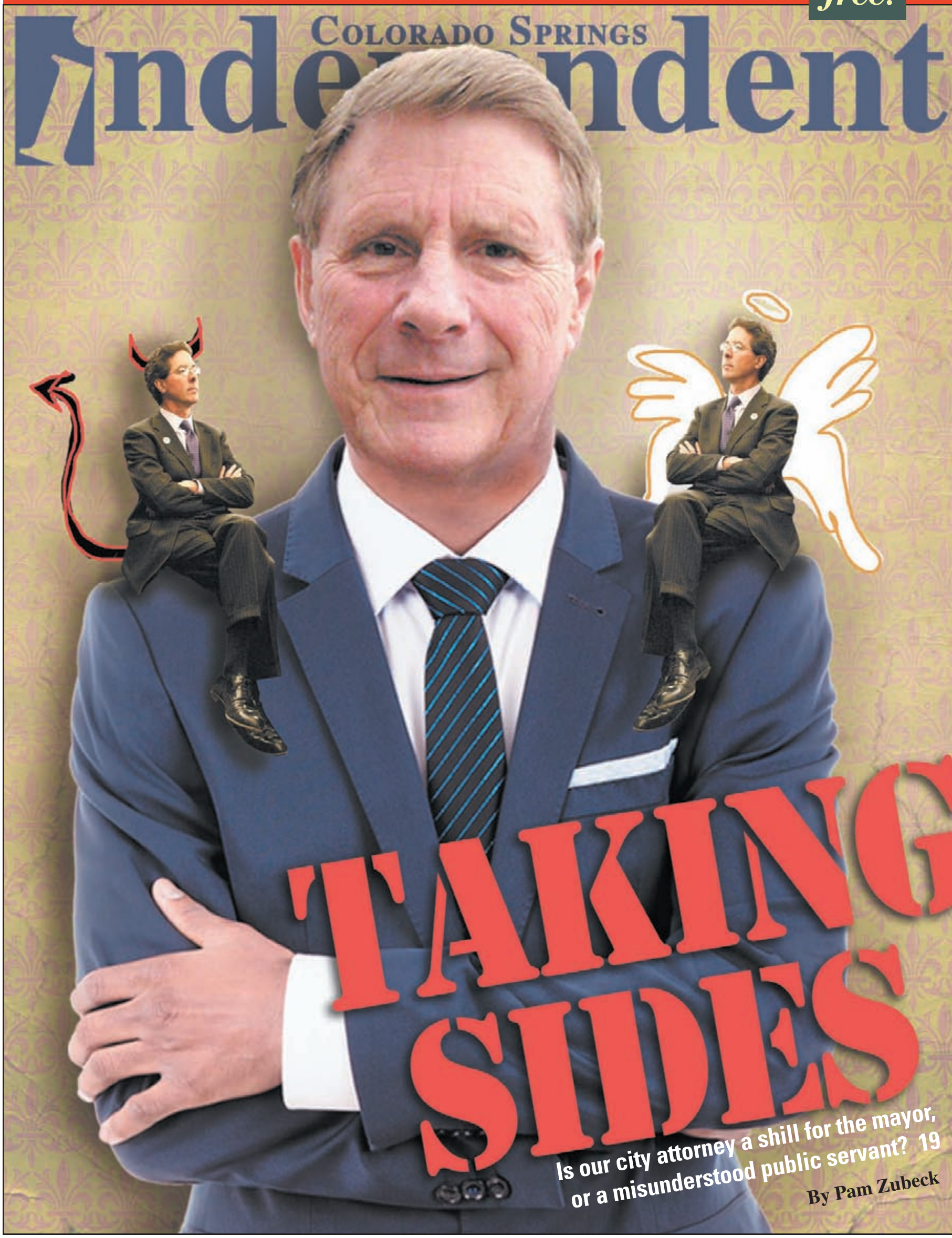
Colorado Springs Independent



TAKING SIDES

Is our city attorney a shill for the mayor, or a misunderstood public servant? 19

By Pam Zubeck

CHI-POAT-LAY CAY-TER-ING

Chipotle Catering offers several delicious catering options that are perfect for any business meeting, event or party—serving as few as 20 or as many as 200.

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Colorado Springs' largest locally owned media company.
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Our new intern Matt, gettin' in the *Indy* spirit.

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Missing the point
Teaching physical defense is the Rape Aggression Defense program's main focus. "The last class we did, I had two gals in there, one was 16 and one was 18, and ... they had both been sexually assaulted," detective Korbie Perkins says. "The one told me, flat-out, 'If I had known, I could have gotten away.'"

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Break:
Grand vision
On one hand, Temple Grandin's points of focus — industrial design, animal welfare issues, and the autism she lives with — seem disconnected. But when you consider her beginnings, and what might have sunk in early on, they fit together nicely.

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Ranger Rich:
It's a dog's life
Today we will discuss an important civic award given by our highly esteemed mayor to a dog named Swagger, causing him to get so excited that he ran outside City Hall, peed on a fire hydrant and bit a mailman.

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On the Cover
Photo illustration by art director Kathy Conarro.

UpComing
In less than one month, Colorado Springs will have a newly elected City Council. But first we've got to vote.

We'll present our candidate endorsements, along with our take on the measures, in next week's *Independent* — just about the time a ballot should hit your mailbox.

---THIS WEEK'S FEATURED OFFER!---

You ARE A Winner!

West Side Story
A pair of tickets
Katherine Wilson

Doobie Brothers
A pair of tickets
Frank Strayer

FAC Wine Festival
A pair of passes
Anthony Tuthill

Be A Winner!

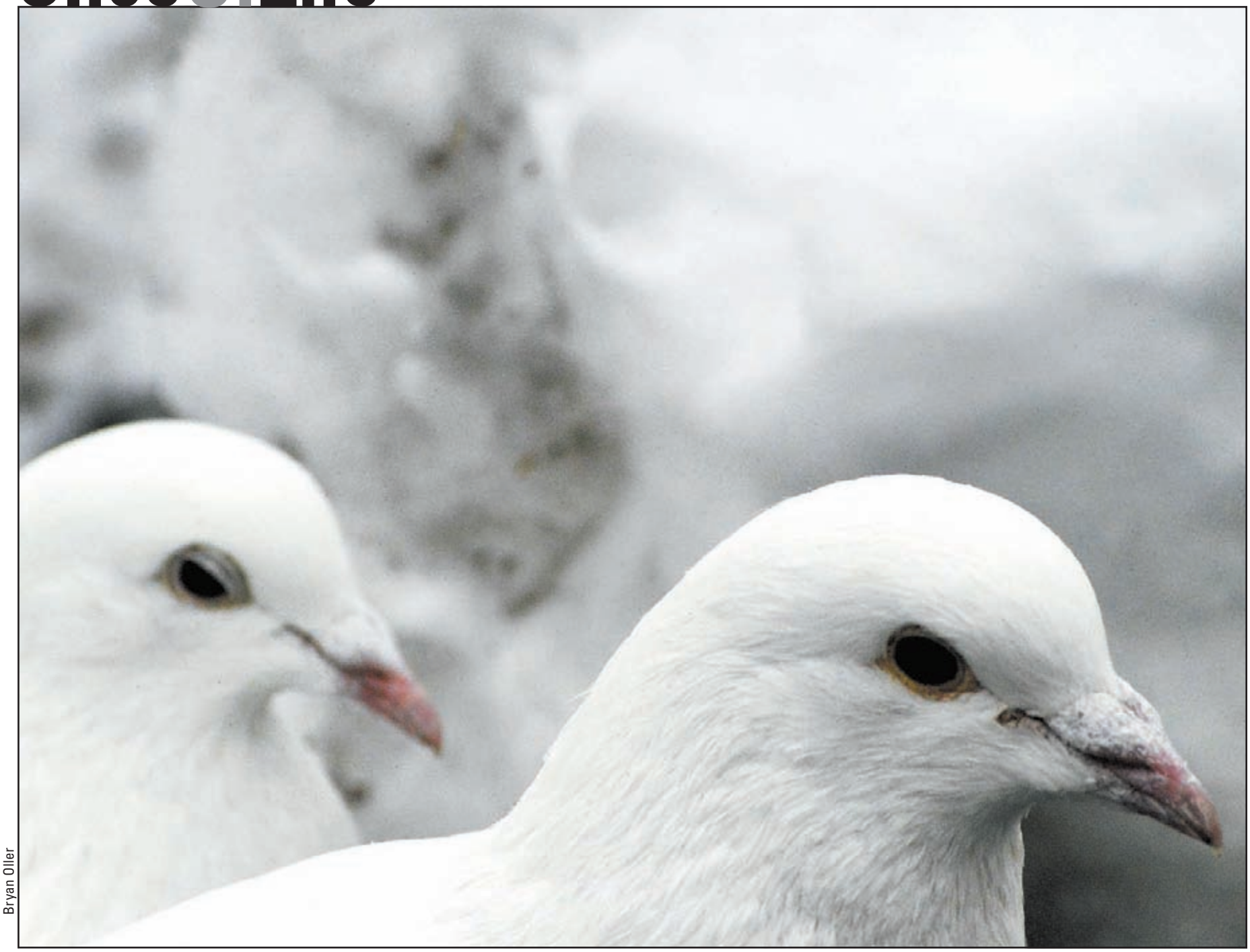
Comedian Kathleen Madigan brings her new Showtime special, *Gone Madigan*, to the Pikes Peak Center, and David Labrava, aka "Happy" from the hit TV series *Sons of Anarchy*, will be at the 23rd Annual Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet. We've got passes to both! Visit csindy.com to sign up for the *Indy* Blast and your chance to win.

DO YOU KNOW TAOS?

Some people say there are no more secrets left in skiing and snowboarding. They say there's nothing left to be discovered, that all the stashes are gone, the mysteries revealed. They say that powder days have been reduced to a mere hour, and the only way to chase first tracks is fight the crowds.

Well, they don't know Taos. Do you?

SliceOfLife



Bryan Oller

We think we know birds, says Sir David Attenborough, like these at Evergreen Cemetery. 'And yet they inhabit a world which is really rather mysterious.'

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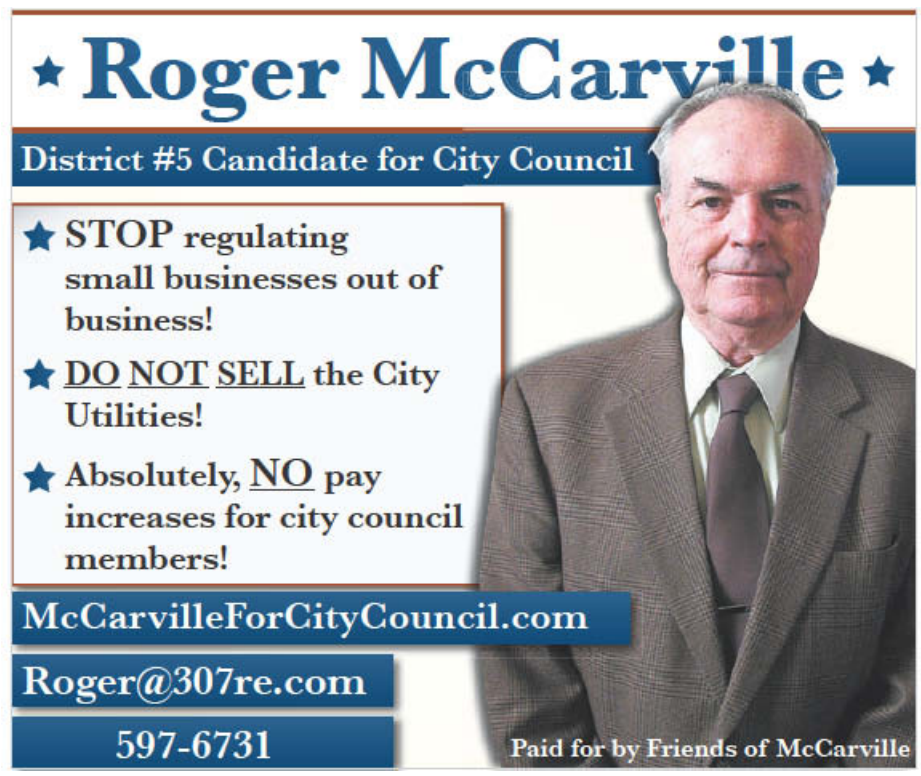
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Letters

Editor, 235 S. Nevada Ave., CS, CO 80903 • e-mail: letters@csindy.com

If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.

'Public' means everybody

Coy Mathis is in the news, a transgender girl in Fountain who is being denied the right to use the girls' restroom at her school. It's black-letter law in Colorado that transgender people have the right to use the restroom that matches their gender identity, the same as anyone else.

One way to address this issue is through a Colorado Civil Rights Division complaint, but that takes a very long time, and the damage to the girl will be irreparable. I suggest a lesser-known option, which I have pursued successfully here in the Springs to protect my rights as a transgender person.

Lobby your local police to press CRS 24-34-602(2), which makes it a misdemeanor to deny full and equal access to a place of public accommodation because of discriminatory reasons. Schools are specifically listed as places of public accommodation.

Here in the Springs, it is written police policy how to deal with this situation. To quote General Order 580: "A violation of 24-34-602(2) is an unclassified misdemeanor and therefore should be investigated like any other criminal complaint." The principal of that school, and anybody who ordered him to do it, have committed a crime. Not just once, but every single time the girl needs to use the restroom.

That girl is singled out for school-endorsed humiliation every time she has to use the restroom. The district may be content to kick this can down the road for a year and half before the state makes them follow the law, but I don't think that principal is going to be willing to face a thousand misdemeanor charges.

I'm not even going to go into what it teaches a school full of children when the school itself knowingly and deliberately breaks a law that is as clear as the First Amendment.

— Gina Davis
Colorado Springs

Number crunching

Joel Dyer's article "The new era of conspiracy thinking" (cover story, Feb. 27) misses some relevant information.

First there is the document produced by Greg Ridgeway, Ph.D. of the National Institute of Justice in January of this year, which states, "Fatalities from mass shootings account on average for 35 fatalities per year." Also in the document it states, "assault weapons are not a major contributor to gun crime."

If this is not enough to make you start looking for a conspiracy, you see the FBI data that states that all rifles, which would include hunting and semi-auto rifles, account for 323 murders a year. While 496 people are killed with hammers a year.

After reviewing this data, people start thinking the stated goal of making us safer with gun control does not make sense. Hence they look for the real reason, which some call a conspiracy.

— Jill Coleman
Colorado Springs

Editor's note: For added perspective, 2011 FBI figures show firearms of all kinds were used in 8,583 murders; all other weapons and methods combined accounted for 4,081.

We're not hillbillies

It's disappointing that Mr. Rich Tosches chose to profile all gun owners as backwoods hillbillies with poor dental hygiene and a propensity for shooting at anything within eyesight ("Magpul's next move," Ranger Rich, Feb. 27). I've owned a gun since before I joined the Navy in 1974. I've never shot a sign, or an abandoned car, or a propane tank, or a tree for that matter.

I'm also not the uneducated redneck Mr. Tosches seems to think I am, having been a computer programmer for over 30 years. I don't drink, I don't watch NASCAR, and my wife and I both earn a very respectable wage, pay our taxes, and participate in the community.

It's disappointing that he refers to 30-round magazines for the AR-15 as "high-capacity," when in fact they are considered standard-capacity magazines for that weapon. It would be more accurate to refer to the double-wide 60-round and 100-round drum magazines as high-capacity.

More to the point, though, is that our right to keep and bear arms does not hinge on the acts of a few lunatics. I maintain a small inventory of guns to serve the purpose stated within the Second Amendment — "being necessary to the security of a free state." This means that even though I don't agree with Mr. Tosches' outlook regarding guns and the Second Amendment, I will damn sure stand in the door and defend his right to express those opinions with appropriate force (and deadly force if necessary), and to the best of my ability. He doesn't have to thank me, but I'd appreciate a bit more respect than he has shown to date.

Finally, I refuse to be held accountable for the actions of some lunatic in Connecticut, or anywhere else for that matter, simply because I own a gun.

— John Simmons
San Antonio, Texas

Protected speech

Rich Tosches doesn't like the popularly elected officials in El Paso county. Too bad we can't have a referendum on his column.

Oh wait, it is a free forum.

— John Thomas Spencer
Colorado Springs

Colorado values

Thank you, Rich Tosches, for speaking the truth to the insanity of the gun lobby, Magpul and our county commissioners. I am sure that you are getting lots of nasty mail and threats. After all, is anyone really surprised that the man threatening Rep. Rhonda Fields is from Colorado Springs?

Any company that thinks its profits from "unfair advantage" are more important than the lives that are lost is a company that Colorado does not need. Does a gun company's policy of sales "regardless of the end user or their mission" represent the values of Colorado or even El Paso County? I would like to think not.

— Christy LeLait
Colorado Springs

Culture theft

I found the juxtaposition of your two "AudioFile" articles ("Beginning to see the light" and "Reservation blues," Feb. 27) to be rather ironic.

The second was very enlightening, featuring Otis Taylor's latest release, on which he tells of the "erosion of the Native American world that white society continues to subjugate." The preceding article was accompanied by a picture of two white guys illustrating quite clearly what Mr. Taylor was lamenting.

The Buffalo Horn Head Dress and (thankfully fake) Eagle Feather War Bonnet worn by these two culturally insensitive *wasichus* were reserved only for chiefs and warriors of special repute amongst the Lakota Oyate, which I assume neither of these two are or will ever be. The guy in the sunglasses is also apparently giving the "hau" greeting.

It is especially disheartening to me to think that a progressive newspaper such as yours would not be aware of how this picture would be received by not only Native Americans who are cognizant of their history, but also by any reader aware of the cultural and religious misappropriation of everything Native Americans held close to their hearts. While I wouldn't expect you to hire an expert to vet every picture you run, perhaps a cover shot of their CD would have sufficed.

— Dennis Warren
Florissant

Holy child abusers

We've now seen that our local former policeman, Mr. Joshua Carrier,

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'I don't think there was any kind of loss of a son. We just gained an awesome daughter.'

— Kathryn Mathis on realizing that Coy, one of her 6-year-old triplets, is transgender. For the rest of the Indy*'s piece on the Fountain family, see tinyurl.com/bb3rorx.*

LongStoryShort

As anyone who's been through a divorce — or for that matter, a marriage — can attest, change is disruptive.

So when an entire city government is turned upside-down by a rearrange of who has which powers, you can imagine how unsettling it can be.

Nearly two years into Colorado Springs' new council-mayor form of government, the pain of sorting out City Council's authority from the mayor's still sometimes takes center stage at Council meetings. And often, Councilors grouse that their say-so is being muzzled by legal opinions from City Attorney Chris Melcher.

Appointed by Mayor Steve Bach (though approved by Council), Melcher has repeatedly told the city's legislative branch it can't do this or that. He's added that if Councilors disagree with a given opinion, they're basically out of luck — they don't get to seek a second opinion. Unsurprisingly, some Councilors have since decided that the new form of government simply isn't working.

As long as Council and Bach share the same vision, their roles in the new structure don't raise issues. But when those visions differ, as they do on such key things as Colorado Springs Utilities, Melcher's opinions are pivotal. For instance, he's said Council's veto overrides aren't necessarily binding, and that the mayor has contract authority over Utilities, though he has no vote on the board.

Is this the kind of change we voted for? Find out more in our cover report, which starts on p. 19.

— Pam Zubeck

has received a 70-year prison sentence, which probably will keep him behind bars for life. This is the harshest sentence there is, short of the death sentence. What he was convicted of was the fondling of the genitals of youths in local schools, during phony "physical exams."

By contrast, we have read for years stories of Catholic priests, and the clergy of other faiths, committing crimes of a hideous magnitude, so brutal and vicious that it makes Mr. Carrier seem like a small-time amateur. These holy men have forcibly raped boys and girls, with unimaginable pain and fear, often repeatedly. Did the majority of those men get 70-year sentences?

On the contrary, most were never even charged, many were afforded retirements, shifted to new jurisdictions, and some transferred to new parishes offering young, fresh victims for more rapes. Compare fondling of youths, over against repeated forced rapes of children. Compare the punishment, or lack of it, in these cases.

Rape convictions usually carry sentences of 20 years to life in most areas, as do convictions for felony child abuse. Those church administrators who, trying to cover up church crimes, transferred known rapists to new jurisdictions were guilty of obstruction of justice, often including witness tampering, plus aiding and abetting any crimes committed by clergy after being shifted to new parishes.

How many life sentences were given to any of these criminals, who were far worse than Carrier? What percentage of them were even charged?

An overarching principle, the bedrock of all laws, is the principle of "Equal treatment under the law." Without this, laws become meaningless. Either release Mr. Carrier today and transfer him to a new school district, or charge and convict the guilty clergymen and their helpers.

— Larimore Nicholl
Colorado Springs

Easy fix

Sequester this: 100 percent of congressional salaries!

Fiscal crisis solved!

— Don Smith
Colorado Springs

Defense numbers

I'm not a regular reader of the *Independent* but the other day I happened upon one and found the letters interesting. I started to read one from Sharlene White, but only got as far as the second paragraph before I stopped reading.

When she said the Pentagon budget was more than 50 percent of the federal budget, I realized she hadn't any idea what she was talking about. Sharlene, the military budget is 17 percent of the federal budget.

If you don't do your homework, you have no credibility in your advice on how to "trim the fat."

— Bob Mulvaney
Colorado Springs

Editor's note: There are two kinds of federal spending, mandatory (money spent in compliance with laws) and discretionary (allocations Congress adjusts annually). The military accounted for 59 percent of 2012's discretionary spending, and 19 percent of the overall federal budget. We should have edited Ms. White's letter accordingly.

Health care whenever

Re: Dr. Dlugo's letter about "Little Clinics" ("A Little problem," Feb. 27):

Dr. Dlugo, your office is only open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8 to 5-ish. On Wednesdays and Fridays, you are only open until noon.

We go to the "Little Clinics" because we fall ill outside your minimal office hours as we work until 6 p.m. every day, Monday through Friday. Some of us work nights. Sometimes we even get sick on weekends. These "Little Clinics" offer something huge that your practice does not: they are open.

If you feel you are not making enough money because the "Little Clinics" are taking business away from you, please consider having extended hours and days, past 5 p.m., and heck, even be open full days on Wednesday and Fridays.

— Mary Gagliardi
Colorado Springs

It's the law

Regarding Ms. Jessica Hunter-Larsen's heartbreaking letter (Feb. 6), and Mr. Alan Joseph's kind reply (Feb. 13): Her 5-month-old puppy was killed by another dog that was off-leash. I doubt if she could identify or locate that dog owner. The owner could face criminal charges and her dog could be put down as a dangerous dog.

Is she still taking her dog out unleashed? She certainly won't offer to help with the vet bills.

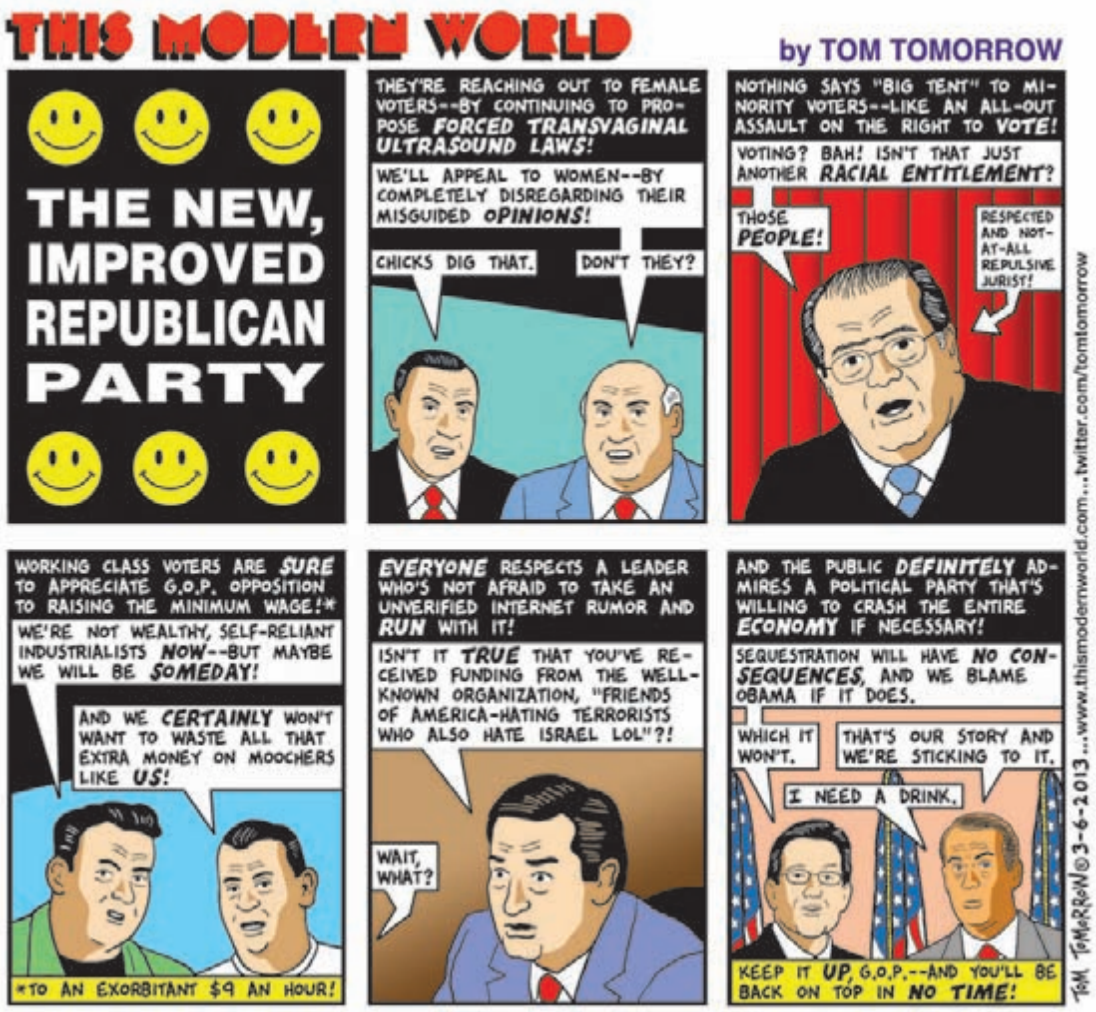
I have two chihuahuas. Over the years, my dogs (on a leash) have been attacked many times by unleashed dogs. On one occasion, a yellow lab was clamping his teeth on my dog's neck. The owner grabbed his dog at the last minute. My dog was covered in slobber, but lucky to be alive.

On another occasion, at a local park my dogs were attacked by two large dogs. They were panicked and terrified. We were frantically trying to catch our dogs, while the other dog owner made no move to control his dogs. He was laughing. As we were leaving, his friend approached and was told, "Oh, you missed it! It was so funny. You should have seen it."

Typically, the reaction is "He's just playing," or, "My dogs are friendly." I have learned to carefully watch for unleashed dogs and I pick my dogs up and carry them. Why can't these dog owners understand why it is the law? Anything can happen, as Ms. Hunter-Larsen and Mr. Joseph stated.

In closing, my heart goes out to Ms. Hunter-Larsen. I can only hope that her heart-breaking letter got through to dog owners who are now keeping their dogs on a leash. Or, taking them to the Bear Creek Dog Park to let them run.

— Catherine Marshall
Colorado Springs


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
THE NEW, IMPROVED REPUBLICAN PARTY
THEY'RE REACHING OUT TO FEMALE VOTERS--BY CONTINUING TO PROPOSE FORCED TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND LAWS!
WE'LL APPEAL TO WOMEN--BY COMPLETELY DISREGARDING THEIR MISGUIDED OPINIONS!
CHICKS DIG THAT.
DON'T THEY?
NOTHING SAYS "BIG TENT" TO MINORITY VOTERS--LIKE AN ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON THE RIGHT TO VOTE!
VOTING? BAH! ISN'T THAT JUST ANOTHER RACIAL ENTITLEMENT?
THOSE PEOPLE!
RESPECTED AND NOT-AT-ALL REPULSIVE JURIST!
WORKING CLASS VOTERS ARE SURE TO APPRECIATE G.O.P. OPPOSITION TO RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE!*
WE'RE NOT WEALTHY, SELF-RELIANT INDUSTRIALISTS NOW--BUT MAYBE WE WILL BE SOMEDAY!
AND WE CERTAINLY WON'T WANT TO WASTE ALL THAT EXTRA MONEY ON MOOCHERS LIKE US!
*TO AN EXORBITANT $9 AN HOUR!
EVERYONE RESPECTS A LEADER WHO'S NOT AFRAID TO TAKE AN UNVERIFIED INTERNET RUMOR AND RUN WITH IT!
ISN'T IT TRUE THAT YOU'VE RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE WELL-KNOWN ORGANIZATION, "FRIENDS OF AMERICA-HATING TERRORISTS WHO ALSO HATE ISRAEL LOL"?!
WAIT, WHAT?
AND THE PUBLIC DEFINITELY ADMIRES A POLITICAL PARTY THAT'S WILLING TO CRASH THE ENTIRE ECONOMY IF NECESSARY!
SEQUESTRATION WILL HAVE NO CONSEQUENCES, AND WE BLAME OBAMA IF IT DOES.
WHICH IT WON'T.
THAT'S OUR STORY AND WE'RE STICKING TO IT.
I NEED A DRINK.
KEEP IT UP, G.O.P.--AND YOU'LL BE BACK ON TOP IN NO TIME!
TOM TOMORROW©3-6-2013 ...www.thismodernworld.com...twitter.com/tomtomorrow

GetInvolved

For the kids

Attend this volunteer information night and learn how you can support CASA, an organization that fights for the rights and interests of children in the court system.

CASA 411 Night
Thursday, March 7, 5:30 p.m.
CASA Office, 701 S. Cascade Ave.
Contact: 447-9898, ext. 1033, casappr.org

Get smart

Learn more about the prevalence of HIV/AIDS among women and girls, and how to protect yourself as numbers continue to rise. Prior to the luncheon on March 8, S-CAP will offer free, professional and confidential testing on Thursday March 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at its office at 1301 S. Eighth St. Appointments suggested; available at 578-9092

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Luncheon
Friday, March 8, noon
Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., $20
Contact: 578-9092, scapwomenslun-cheonmarch8.kintera.org

Board-walk

Apply to serve on the City Planning Commission, a body that works with City Council to "review various land use development applications and proposals." Send letters of interest and résumés by e-mail to mdevine@springsgov.com or mail to City Council, Attn. Marti Devine Sletta, P.O. Box 1575, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. More information available online.

City Planning Commission call
Applications due: March 13
Contact: 385-5453, springsgov.com

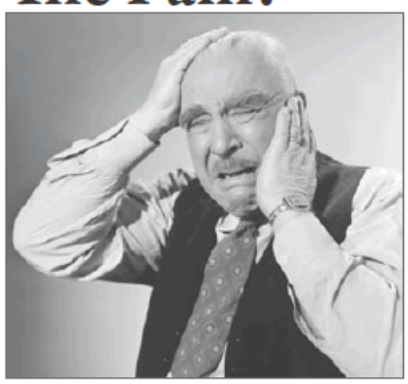
For more civic and volunteer opportunities, see Listings on p. 44.

A Different Kind of Dentist

Top 5 Reasons Why People Dislike Dentists!!

Your Smile, Your Happiness, Your Choice.

#3 The Pain!



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-Dr. Julia Rohleder, DMD

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CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

Redefining the 'active' voter

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Two hundred and thirty-seven years later, those words still inspire not only for what they say but for what they imply. **Thomas Jefferson** enumerated three unalienable rights, but made it clear that other such rights existed. He left the task of determining them to generations yet unborn.

The right to vote may not stem from the Creator, but no constitutionally determined right has been so debated, so codified and so contested as the right of Americans to cast votes for their elected representatives. Since the Constitution was first ratified, six separate amendments have amplified and extended the franchise. State and local governments may not deny the right to vote to citizens 18 and older on account of age, sex, race, color, failure to pay poll tax, or previous condition of servitude — but that leaves plenty of wiggle room.

Our Council can remedy the problem.

Decades ago, white Southerners led the way in preventing unwelcome elements from exercising their constitutional rights. So-called "literacy tests," administered at the whim of election officials, were used to prevent African-Americans from registering, and if that didn't work there was always the Ku Klux Klan.

Such crude intimidation has largely vanished, replaced by sophisticated techniques of voter suppression: State legislatures, whether controlled by Democrats or Republicans, gleefully redraw the boundaries of legislative districts to disadvantage their opponents. But there's a fundamental difference between the two parties regarding access to the polls.

Democrats and moderate Republicans benefit from high turnout. Minorities and young voters do not vote in the same percentages as the older, whiter tea party base. If minorities and young adults turn out, in Republican caucuses or general elections, right-wingers go down.

So what must a right-leaning strategist do? Try to keep these folks away from the polls. Make voting inconvenient and difficult in lefty neighborhoods, forcing voters wait in line for hours. Manufacture allegations of extensive voter fraud to discourage independent voter-registration drives. Prevent unaffiliated voters from voting in primaries.

Too bad for the tea partiers — **Barack Obama** was more than a match for the well-funded Republican yokels who felt yesterday's campaign strategy would elect yesterday's candidate. That defeat stung, but right-wingers won't slink off to the nursing home. They know political power is built precinct by precinct, county by county — and you always must protect your base.

Next week, every Colorado Springs resident who voted in the presidential election will receive a mail-in ballot for the April 2 municipal election. That's because the county clerk defines an "active" voter as a person who voted in the most recent general election. This isn't some sinister right-wing plot to prune the voting rolls — it's more a matter of administrative convenience.

Yet it's scarcely insignificant.

The voter rolls now include first-time voters as well as those who rarely vote in off-year elections. Come November 2014, many may ignore what promises to be a statewide snoozer, since neither Gov. **John Hickenlooper** nor Sen. **Mark Udall** is likely to face serious opposition. If that happens, many thousands of 2012 voters won't receive mail ballots in April 2015.

Does that matter? It might. Two years from now, voters will choose a mayor and three at-large Councilors. Changes in the city charter might be proposed, and there will be a runoff if no mayoral candidate gets a majority in the first go-round. Those "inactive" voters might make a difference.

In the past, Colorado Springs voters have chosen moderate, reasonably progressive candidates such as **Sallie Clark**, **Mary Lou Makepeace**, **Richard Skorman**, **Steve Bach** and **Terry Maketa**. Of course, they've also chosen **Douglas Bruce** and **Doug Lamborn**.

Our nonpartisan Council can remedy the problem by passing an ordinance declaring that everyone who votes in any election be deemed an active voter for at least four years. Simple enough if you believe in the right to vote. Not so simple if you believe, as **George Orwell** might have put it, that "all voters are equal, but some voters are more equal than others."

— hazlehurst@csindy.com

StreetSmarts

Fiddling while Rome burns

Last week an increasingly ineffective and dysfunctional Congress let loose with whole operas of chest-thumping, angry ejaculation, jowl-shaking and finger-pointing while collectively letting the country slip into sequestration (automatic budget cuts). With no one budging, what now?

David Clarkson from ***Mountain Shadows*** is a ***computer systems analyst***

Does sequestration worry you? It won't harm us initially, but something has to happen, and there's going to be some consequences. I'd rather it be resolved without sequestration.

How did we get into this morass? Too many people in Congress putting personal interests before our interests.

Are politics worse today than 10-20 years ago? In the past, the parties compromised to pass important legislation. We actually balanced the budget during the Clinton years, and it was done through bipartisan cooperation, not threat of sequestration.

Is the impasse solvable? Congress is so in the back pockets of special interests and partisan ideology that the only solution, probably, is term limits. That's unfortunate because it throws out good people along with the bad.

Donna Maloney from ***Black Forest*** is a ***physical therapist***

How up are you on the sequestration imbroglio? To the extent that I hear about it on NPR and the local news, reading the newspaper, and a little word of mouth.

How did we get to this sorry state? Polarization — the extreme right unwilling to give an inch toward the middle.

Are politics worse now than 10-20 years ago? I pay more attention now than 10-20 years ago, so it's hard to say. It seems pretty clear, though, that too many politicians care more about ideology than working their way to common-good solutions.

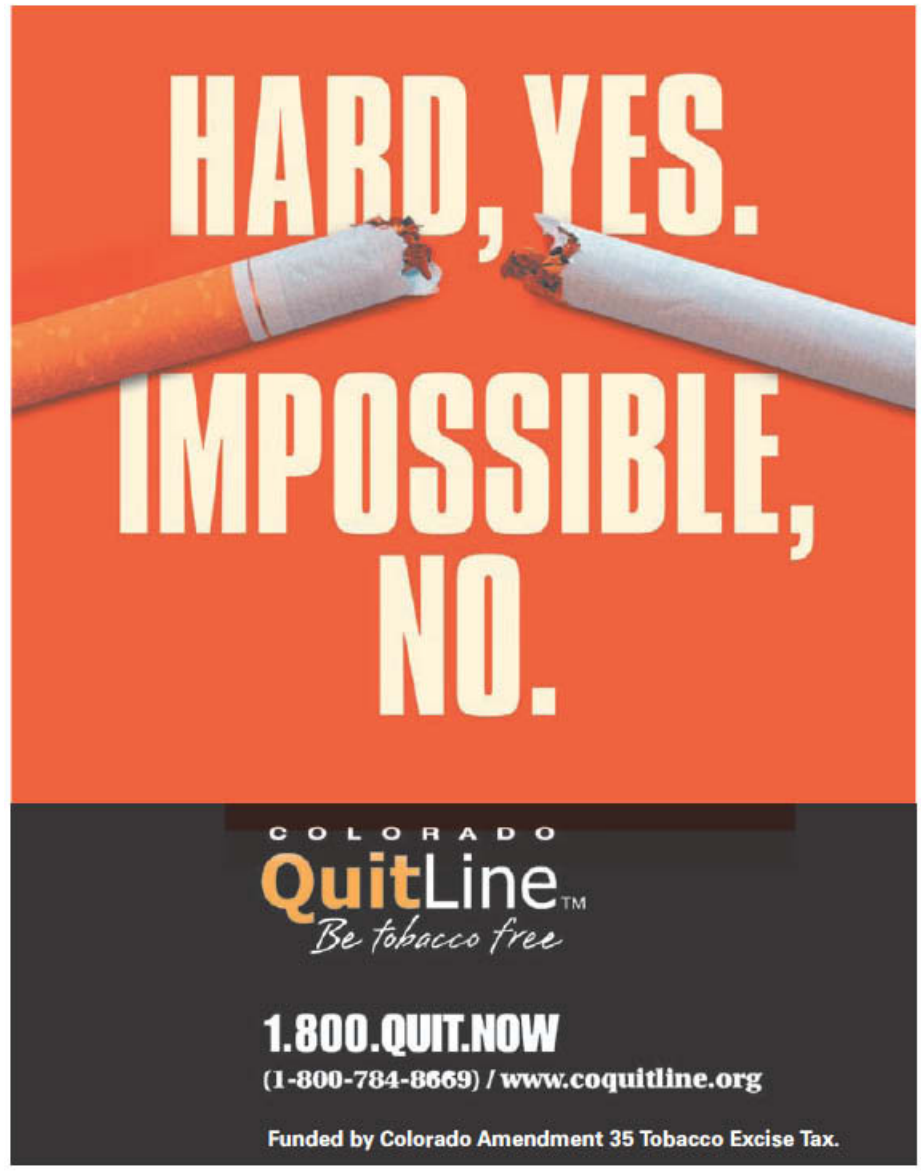
Molly Martin from ***downtown*** is a ***clerk***

Does the advent of sequestration worry you? I'm deeply concerned about indiscriminate cuts to programs important for our well-being.

How did we get to this point? Politicians behaving like couples in need of marriage counseling — doing and saying things to hurt each other instead of finding solutions. The Republicans and Democrats hate each other so much they can't compromise on anything because it might make the other side look good.

Are politics today worse than 10-20 years ago? Corruption has been rampant since Nixon, but polarization spiked during the Monica Lewinsky thing. It's worse than ever now with the tea party and half-crazy fringe elements pulling both parties to extremes.

— Bob Campbell



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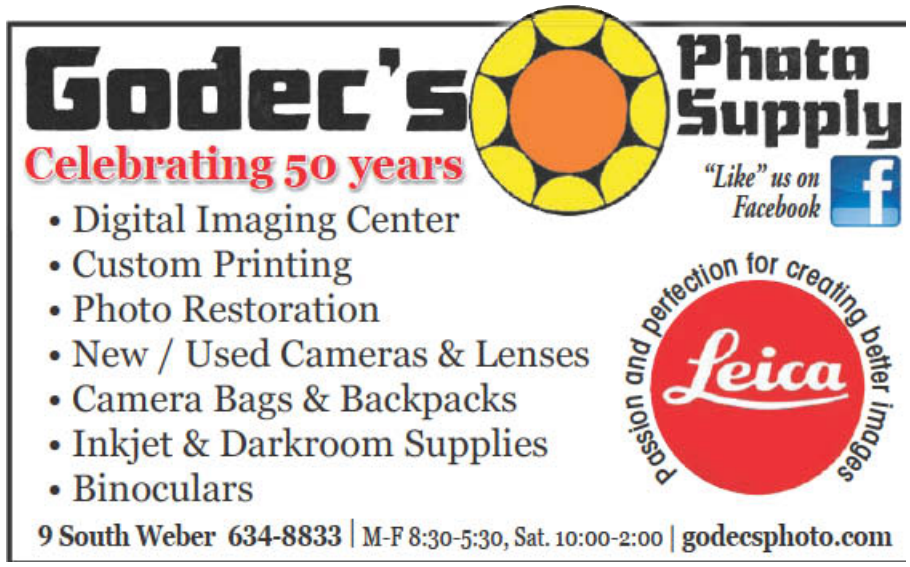
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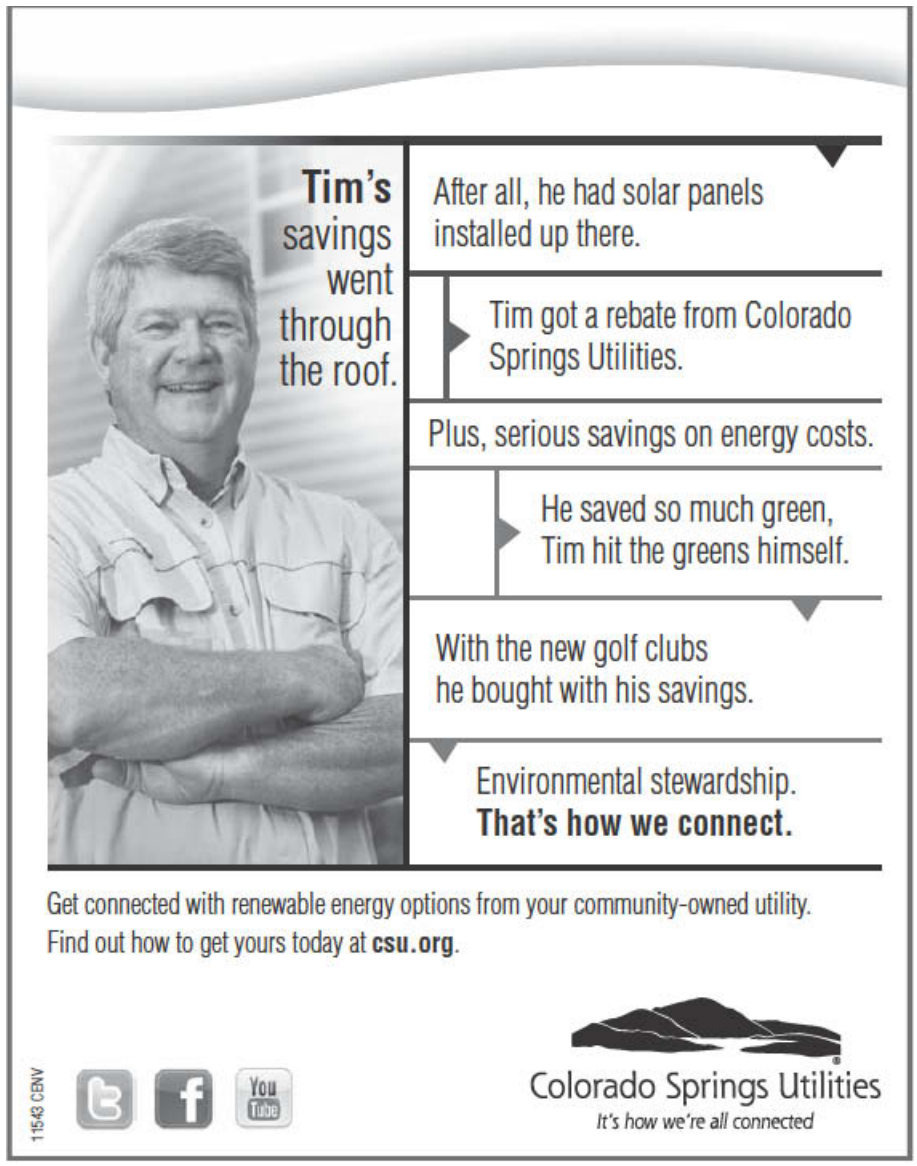
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LowDown

By Jim Hightower

Let's adopt the GOP platform

Well now, here's some unexpected news!

It comes from what purports to be an official document of the National Republican Party.

And — wow! — the policy positions it contains show that party leaders really are serious about coming to their senses and rejecting the plutocratic extremism and far-right wackiness that has stained their recent presidential, congressional and gubernatorial campaigns.

Right at the top, this 18-page manifesto proclaims that, "Our government was created by the people for all the people, and it must serve no less a purpose."

ALL the people! Forget last year's ridiculous pontifications by Mitt Romney and others dividing America into virtuous "creators" (like themselves) and worthless "moochers" (like you and me) — this document abounds with commitments to the common good.

Forget last year's pontifications by Mitt Romney.

"America does not prosper," it proudly proclaims on page three, "unless all Americans prosper."

Shazam — that's downright democratic!

And how's this for a complete turnaround: "Labor is the United States. The men and women, who with their minds, their hearts and hands, create the wealth that is shared in this country — they are America."

Holy Koch brothers, share the wealth?

Yes, and how about this: "The protection of the right of workers to organize into unions and to bargain collectively is the firm and permanent policy of the [Republican Party]."

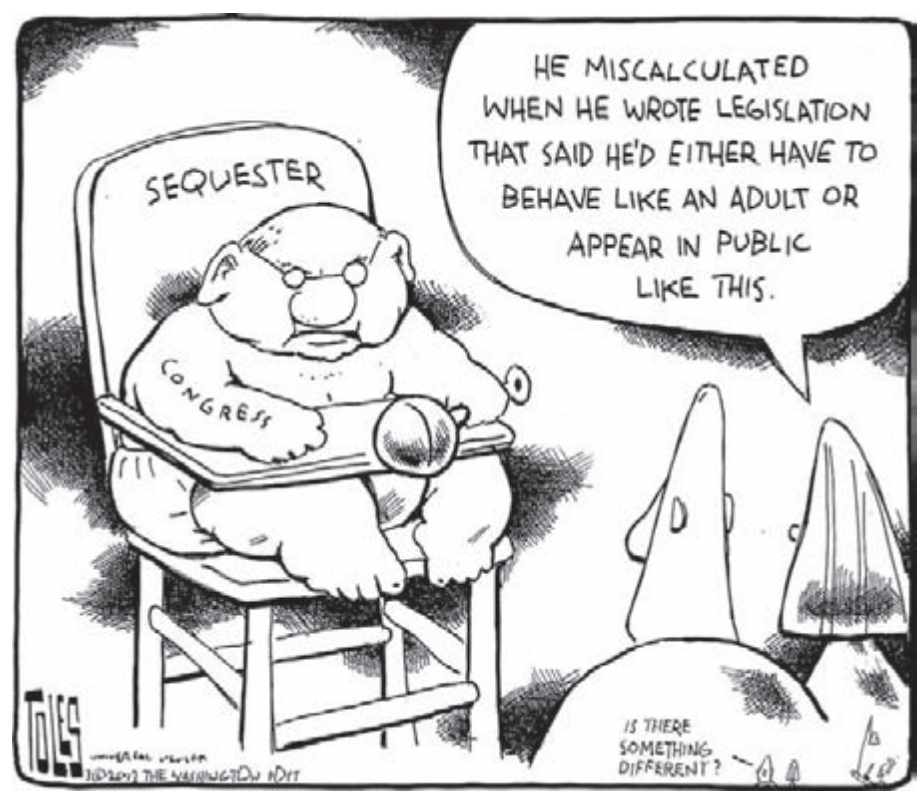
Eat your heart out, Scott Walker, and you other labor-bashing GOP governors!

The document also supports the Postal Service, the United Nations, equal rights for women, expanding our national parks, "vigorous enforcement of anti-trust laws," and raising the minimum wage. New enlightenment in the Grand Old Party. Hallelujah!

Can all this be true?

Yes, except it's not new. This document is the Republican Party Platform — of 1956.

Jim Hightower is the best-selling author of **Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go With the Flow***, on sale now from Wiley Publishing. For more information, visit jimhightower.com.*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IS THERE SOMETHING DIFFERENT?
TOLES

Between the Lines

By Ralph Routon

Tough timing for new leaders

More than three decades ago, in a lengthy conversation about Air Force Academy athletes, longtime AFA athletic director Col. **John Clune** made an observation that's never left my memory.

"You can say all you want about the future Air Force leaders we're developing, but as special as everyone is here, some of them are even more special," Clune said before the academy's 1981 graduation. "And we've got one in this graduating class who is like that. To be totally honest, I think **Michelle Johnson** could become the first woman to run this place as superintendent. That's how impressive she is."

Sadly, Col. Clune — who died of cancer in 1992 — won't be around this June to see his prophecy come true. Maj. Gen. Michelle Johnson, a basketball star and first female cadet wing commander who became a Rhodes Scholar and later a command pilot as she moved up the Air Force ladder, will be promoted to lieutenant general (three stars) when she takes over as the first female AFA superintendent. She'll replace Lt. Gen. **Michael Gould**, who wraps up his four-year tenure and plans to remain as an area resident after retirement.

The budget cuts will affect the military most.

That's not the only high-profile change coming to the local military community. Maj. Gen. **Joseph Anderson**, who has done so much in 15 fast-paced months as Fort Carson's commander to enhance the Army's relationships across southern Colorado, is heading for a new assignment. His successor will be Maj. Gen. **Paul LaCamera**, a 1985 West Point graduate who comes from the Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.

For both Johnson and LaCamera, the tasks ahead will be treacherous.

As the nation dips its toes into the water muddied by federal budget cuts (we'll no longer be using the term "sequestration," which has been banished to the dungeon for overused clichés), all political sides actually can agree on one fact. These reductions will affect the military most, with half of the estimated $85 billion this year coming out of the Pentagon.

Here in Colorado Springs, military leaders have pegged the expected impact as $57 million for the Army at Fort Carson and $8 million spread among the Air Force's operations at Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever AFB and the Air Force Academy. All of that, to be clear, must happen by Sept. 30, after which more cutbacks would kick in for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

As the politicians play their games in Washington, D.C., we'll be feeling the impact more than most metro areas. And during periods of such uncertainty, the last thing any major military installation would want is a command change.

From the moment they arrive, both Johnson and LaCamera will face the challenge of maintaining stability while they oversee the oncoming budget cuts. As Anderson outlined in a recent talk to local leaders, those will include thousands of unpaid civilian furloughs (yes, *thousands*, including a reported 3,000 employees losing a day a week from April through September, just at Fort Carson) as well as canceled contracts and reduced spending locally for military supplies.

LaCamera and Johnson will deal with all that while meeting and getting to know community leaders, most of whom will ask endless questions about what might happen next.

If they check with their predecessors, as the two incoming generals undoubtedly will, they'll find how much emphasis Anderson and Gould have placed on reaching out to Colorado Springs. That means saying "yes" to many invitations that, in the past, might have been delegated to others. For Gould it was easier, since he was an AFA graduate who always kept close ties and oversaw Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station along the way. But Anderson, despite being a newcomer to the Springs, built and cultivated wide support faster than many believed possible with his no-nonsense, yet upbeat, approach.

Of course, Gould and Anderson didn't have painful budget cuts waiting for them, as is the case now for Johnson and LaCamera.

But that doesn't mean the two generals are being set up to fail. In fact, their situation brings to mind another familiar quote from John Clune, who spent two decades as a colonel.

"Just remember," Clune said many times, "there's a reason they became generals. They earned it."

— routon@csindy.com

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CHIPOTLE
MEXICAN GRILL

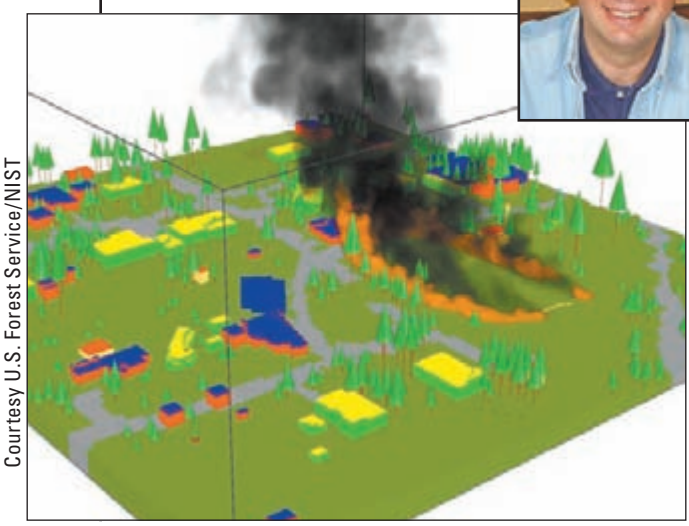
Still spreading

The Waldo Canyon Fire catches the eye of scientists with cutting-edge technology

By Pam Zubeck

Alexander Maranghides uses the word "complex" a lot. A fire protection engineer with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, he goes deep into the weeds, trying to find ways to reduce structure losses and save lives in wildland fires.

And for the next two years, the Waldo Canyon Fire burn site will be one of his laboratories.



Courtesy U.S. Forest Service/NIST

The wildland urban interface fire dynamics simulator is created with light detection and ranging imaging.

Maranghides spent his February here, gathering data and interviewing some 40 firefighters. He'll be back several times as he and other scientists, with help from the U.S. Forest Service, investigate what burned, when, how badly and why, to guide preventive measures as well as aid firefighting efforts.

Colorado Springs Fire Marshal Brett Lacey calls this work of "gigantic value" in determining how to prepare for the worst, and respond when it happens.

"I think they're going to be able to grow a tool to the point it's going to give us tremendously more accurate information than we have right now," he says. But Lacey says the city already is light years ahead of other cities in adopting fire-resistant building codes and reducing fire risk, one reason it was chosen for study.

Known unknowns

This effort was instigated by Colorado's U.S. Sens. Michael Bennet and Mark Udall, who last October called for the Department of Agriculture (which houses the Forest Service) to team with other agencies, including the Department of Commerce's NIST, to "examine the factors that led to the level of intensity and damage [from Colorado's wildland fires], and learn what we can do to reduce future risks."

Maranghides says Colorado Springs is a good site for in-depth studies, because it's progressive in its mitigation efforts, put in place a dozen years ago. In addition, the city agreed to allow researchers to interview firefighters to help reconstruct the fire.

But sealing the deal was the city's existing three-dimensional imaging of the Mountain Shadows area, where the Waldo destroyed 345 homes and killed an elderly couple last June 26. Gathered for planning and development purposes, LIDaR (light detection and ranging) imaging is done from an aircraft and measures the footprint and scale of trees, homes, vehicles, decks, shrubs and topographical contours.

With imaging like that, Maranghides and his team can know what existed before fire swept into the city. And no detail is too small; in California in 2007, NIST investigators examined burn patterns found on golf balls partially embedded in the ground to determine direction of the fire front.

What Maranghides wants are "known uncertainties" — scientist-speak for "the odds" — upon which fire commanders can rely in making deployment decisions. "It's not critical you have the answer 100 percent right all the time," he says. "You just need to know how much you can trust it."

For example, say modeling predicts that buffalo grass burns at 4 meters per second. Researchers then gather data during prescribed burns and other fires, and apply those and other factors in a computer model; at the end, they might conclude that in a buffalo grass fire, this rate is accurate 95 percent of the time. Maranghides envisions NIST's research leading to a playbook of sorts for commanders to consult to gauge how fast and where a fire will spread in making evacuation and firefighting decisions.

Ember zones

NIST's work also could change construction within the wildland urban interface. "Think of everything that burns — trees, shrubs, decks, homes, cars — what embers and fire they're generating, and what it takes all of this to ignite," Maranghides explains. Once that is better understood, homes at the most risk could be retrofitted with resistant materials, and new homes could be constructed differently.

To that end, researchers interview first responders to learn how specific houses caught fire. Was it radiant heat from the house next door, or flying embers? Why did some things ignite and others didn't? Did firefighting efforts save this or that home? Or could its survival stem from building materials?

These answers are crucial to establish "heat flux," the temperature at which an object burns, and "exposure scale," the measure of the likelihood a structure will burn given its proximity in a subdivision and to vegetation and other structures.

"We are putting together tools to help us measure the flux and exposure, so we can understand the exposure and then link the exposure to [building] codes and standards," he says. NIST's research could also guide land-use planning decisions based on levels of risk.

"We can create different zones of fire and ember," Maranghides says. "If you're going to be in ember exposure zone 3 [severe risk, close to the wildlands], you [would] have to build to withstand that exposure." Those types of ratings could lead developers to avoid building in the riskiest spots, and could motivate insurance companies to set premiums based on zones, he says.

"That's what the [insurance] industry is trying to do, but without that yardstick [of exposure and flux ratings], it has been very difficult," Maranghides says.

A model for others

This isn't the first time Colorado Springs has attracted attention for its wildland program. Officials from Germany, Australia, New Zealand and California have contacted the city in years past.

Since 2003, the Fire Department has mitigated 5,824 acres in the city, about 20 percent of the 28,800 acres located within the wildland urban interface, through its work with nearly 100 homeowner associations and neighborhood groups, Lacey says.

Since the fire-resistant roofing ordinance was adopted about a decade ago, 68,915 homeowners have replaced their shake-shingle roofs or obtained roofing permits to do so, he reports. More recently, nine officials from a Russian fire agency came to observe the city's mitigation efforts — arriving, ironically, just as Waldo broke out.

Lacey says the vast majority of Mountain Shadows homes ignited from flying embers, which has already triggered building code changes to require attic screens, as well as more fire-resistant materials. He anticipates that NIST's work will reinforce the city is on the right path, and help advance firefighting and mitigation worldwide.

But a lot of work lies ahead. As Maranghides says, "this field is really at its technical infancy."

— zubeck@csindy.com

Take 5

Colorado Springs Fire Department Deputy Fire Chief Steve Dubay has been in demand since the Waldo Canyon Fire. He's made several presentations and will speak in Reno, Nev., this month at an international conference.

A short version of his lessons learned:

1. Waldo's magnitude overran departmental policies such as the emergency call-back policy. It's being revised to more efficiently manage a department-wide emergency call-back.

2. Communications can be enhanced by conveying more information to citizens as to what is happening and why. In addition, internal communications are critical to keep employees informed and also should be improved.

3. More documentation during the incident helps to know later what happened "when and how." The city and the CSFD are considering the use of volunteers from the Community Advancing Public Safety program to shadow decision-makers and those working in the Emergency Operations Center to better document decisions, deployments and incident developments. (To volunteer, contact Jean Kraus at 444-7735.)

4. Politics will enter into the decision-making process, and you should plan for visits from political dignitaries during the incident. (Both Gov. John Hickenlooper and President Barack Obama visited during the Waldo Canyon Fire.)

5. If you think you have enough equipment and supplies stored, you probably don't. Either store more or know where to get more.

— Pam Zubeck

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News

Missing the point

In the midst of a heated gun debate, rape-prevention efforts got short shrift

By Chet Hardin

When it comes to politically charged public debate, the conversation can go from zero to crazy quicker than you can say "Second Amendment." And this is exactly what happened last month as the state Legislature turned to four House bills to limit access to guns.

Bradley Flora

Hands-on fighting drills play a big role in Rape Aggression Defense seminars for women.

One of those bills, which has since passed the House, would ban handguns on college campuses, regardless of whether an individual possesses a concealed-carry permit. A contentious bill in its own right, the controversy grew when Rep. Joe Salazar, D-Thornton, stood before the House and supported it this way: "And you don't know if you feel like you're gonna be raped, or if you feel like someone's been following you around or if you feel like you're in trouble and when you may actually not be, that you pop out that gun and you pop, pop a round at somebody."

Salazar's comments fueled gun-rights advocates, who were already enraged.

And into the conversation was introduced the completely unrelated subject of rape prevention, as taught by the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. A list of strategies and techniques, offered by the school, to escape an assault include: "Tell your attacker that you have a disease or are menstruating," and "Vomiting or urinating may also convince the attacker to leave you alone."

These tips were not created by UCCS. As the college explains on its public-safety website (which has since removed the offending recommendations), they were provided as "supplemental material" to the international rape-prevention training seminar called R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense). Locally, UCCS and Colorado College both offer the program.

"Unfortunately, they took one aspect of everything we teach," says UCCS Chief of Police Jim Spice, "and sort of fixated on that."

Fighting back

The R.A.D. program is far more extensive than just the last-ditch options upon which people seized. The 12-hour course offers women training in myriad options that they have, but might not recognize.

"There's so much more to it than just peeing on yourself," says Korbie Perkins, a detective in the Glendale Police Department and the Colorado state director of R.A.D. "You can't just stand there and pee on yourself and expect them to run away."

The class stresses awareness of your surroundings, and the avoidance of dangerous situations. As Perkins notes, a woman is more likely to be sexually assaulted during her first six weeks of her freshman year of college than at any other time in her life. So avoiding drugs or alcohol in social settings, staying with a friend, and not drinking out of strange cups are taught as strategies.

From there, they examine defensive resistance techniques, such as yelling, blowing a whistle, or running away.

R.A.D. also explores compliance strategies. "Compliant resistance" includes the strategies that became so notorious, including vomiting on oneself, hyperventilating, urinating, or claiming to have a disease. Express compliance is a strategy of buying time, acting as if you will comply until an opportunity arises to escape or attack.

> **'There's so much more to it than just peeing on yourself.'**

Finally, there's complete compliance, a strategy for when all else has failed. It focuses on what the victim can do to gather details about the environment and assailant that might be useful later to law enforcement.

"Every single situation is different. If you don't have a weapon and there's a gun on you, or a knife to your throat, and you don't feel like you can over-power him or kick and punch," says Spice, "complete compliance could be an option."

However, teaching physical defense is R.A.D.'s main focus: kicking, punching, escaping from bear-hugs and so on.

"The last class we did, I had two gals in there, one was 16 and one was 18, and they were both survivors, they had both been sexually assaulted," Perkins says. "The one told me, flat-out, 'If I had known, I could have gotten away.'"

R.A.D. is a good starter, but she suggests that women can try martial arts or boxing. "Take something," she says, "that prepares you."

A bigger picture

Spice says UCCS tries to offer R.A.D. twice a semester, and once during the summer. The class is open, for free, to all females in the Colorado Springs community. UCCS used to offer R.A.D. classes for men that focused on healthy sexual behavior, but they stopped holding them years ago due to lack of attendance.

R.A.D. has been offered similarly at CC, but Heather Horton, director of the school's Wellness Resource Center, says she also does other work with the community regarding proper sexual interactions.

"We do a lot of work around what healthy relationships look like, and what healthy sexual relationships look like," Horton says. "When students arrive on our campus as new students," she says, "we do some of that education around our policies and processes and an introduction to our bystander intervention."

The program BADASS (Being Aware, Deciding to Act, and Saying Something) teaches students to recognize disrespectful or dangerous behavior, and to intercede when needed.

As Horton notes, more than 80 percent of sexual assaults are committed by a known person, and in a dating situation.

"The likelihood that one would be carrying a weapon like that in that situation, and would be able to feel like they could pull out a weapon in that situation is just unrealistic," she says. "And when the conversation goes in that direction, I think that it does a disservice to the prevention efforts that people are really making."

— chet@csindy.com

Run it by me

Sheriff institutes a strict new political-speech policy

By Chet Hardin

Command staff within the El Paso County Sheriff's Office will have to seek the sheriff's permission before making their political views public, thanks to a recent addition to the office's Policy and Procedure Manual.

Courtesy ACLU of Colorado

The ACLU's Rebecca Wallace says the rule amounts to 'broad prior restraint.'

"The sheer breadth of the ban is actually startling," says Rebecca Wallace, staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado. "We think it's plainly unconstitutional on its face."

Sheriff Terry Maketa says that when he joined the sheriff's office back in 1987, the policy banned any and all political activity. That restriction was eventually loosened to allow employees to engage in political activities in their free time, as long as these activities were legal and didn't "result in inefficient or ineffective performance of duty."

However, an incident that occurred during the 2012 campaigns for state Legislature inspired a further amendment. It includes the line: "No appointed member of the Sheriff's staff shall personally or in official capacity endorse or publicly oppose any candidate or issue without notification and approval of the Sheriff." In other words, Maketa is empowered to disallow an endorsement of any kind if he feels it could negatively affect his office.

According to Maketa, "There was an incident where two legislators were running against each other, and both of them had done a lot of work for our office, in terms of carrying legislation. And one of them asked one of my command-staff members if he would support them, and he said, 'Yeah.' Well, that candidate took it as though she could use him as an endorsement on her website."

Maketa says that this employee didn't realize that the candidate would use his name, and professional title, as an endorsement. It caused problems for Maketa, who was working with the candidate's opponent on a bill.

Besides keeping that from happening again, Maketa says this new policy will help keep command staff members — appointed members who oversee departments of the sheriff's operation — out of a situation where they are being pressured for an endorsement. In essence, he says, this policy grants the employee the ability to say, "'No, you can't use my name and title.'"

Regardless of the motives, Wallace calls the policy "a broad prior restraint on what appears to be all political speech."

While she does acknowledge that the courts have upheld the right of law enforcement agencies to restrict their employees' involvement in party politics, she says, "I have not been able to find a single case that allows the limitation in anything other than partisan politics."

The policy's inclusion of *issues*, she says, is likely unconstitutional.

"It's any conceivable political issue, as far as I can tell," she says. "For a department head who might think that their political views aren't the same as Sheriff Maketa's, it can be pretty intimidating to go and ask him if they can take a public standpoint relating to civil unions, for instance. And that could really deter them from engaging in that core political speech.

"This is a significant overreach by Sheriff Maketa, and it would unlikely withstand a constitutional challenge," she says. "The ACLU would encourage anyone who feels that their speech is limited by this rule, to contact the ACLU and tell us about their experience."

But Maketa doesn't sound worried. "The policy that they cannot get involved in any political activity is statutorily legal," he says, "because they work for an elected official."

— chet@csindy.com

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News

Two and through

As she walks away from Springs City Council, Lisa Czelatdko keeps the verbal barbs coming

By J. Adrian Stanley

Lisa Czelatdko entered office during a time of incredible upheaval.

The city was under a new form of governance, which gave far-reaching powers to a brand-new mayor, Steve Bach. The new leader wasted no time asserting his powers, and replacing longtime staff members with his own picks. At the same time, six out of nine City Councilors were newly elected.

J. Adrian Stanley

Czelatdko is not seeking reelection.

Czelatdko stood out among the crowd of newbies. Previously a nonprofit volunteer and a stay-at-home mom to four young daughters, Czelatdko proved to be a tough critic of the executive branch, questioning legal decisions that removed Council powers (see p. 19) and vocally opposing some of Bach's most cherished goals.

"If Council members had the courage to do what they need to do, Council actually has the most power and possibility to be change agents," the west-side representative says today. "We're the board for [Colorado Springs] Utilities, we're the legislative body — we've got it. It's just coming together and using it and not being so easily persuaded by a small, exclusive group of individuals."

Now, Czelatdko once again stands out — as the only eligible Councilor who won't seek reelection this April. Czelatdko says she's done what she came to do, to be a powerful voice for her constituents. But for now, she says, she'd rather effect change as a volunteer on several boards.

"I'm not leaving because I'm a mother with four kids and couldn't keep up with the busy schedule," she says. "I love being an elected official and I think it's important."

In fact, she plans to run for office again down the road, though not necessarily for Council.

Still, there's no doubt this has been a rough ride for the now-42-year-old. There have been run-ins with the mayor and the media; frustration over a lack of communication with the public; and a wide range of complicated decisions, from leasing Memorial Health System to dealing with the Waldo Canyon Fire.

"We're constantly bombarded with huge issues," she says. "I mean, it has almost been two years of never catching a breath."

Personalities and egos

When Czelatdko first came into office, the main issue was separation of powers — and that issue has been a persistent one.

She has remained fiercely opposed to the widening of mayoral powers in the last two years, saying it's taken city business out of the public eye and removed some of the checks on executive power. In early 2012, when Bach, under the assurance of City Attorney Chris Melcher, said he did not need to enforce "veto-proof" Council changes to the city budget, including some that Czelatdko had championed, she was outraged.

Worse, she says, she found herself painted as a big-spending bureaucrat by many in the media, who seized on Bach's explanation that the city couldn't afford to finance Council's amendments.

"I don't think that as an elected official I should be the one reminding people of the importance of the separation of powers," she says, adding, "How would they feel if Obama said, 'You know what, Congress is getting in my way — I'm going to reinvent Congress, take away their authority and voice'? And, 'I'm your president, you voted me as your president, so I'm going to do what I want'? It would never fly. So why do we find that acceptable at a local level?"

That was just the beginning of the head-butting. Czelatdko notes

that she often voted "no" on items if she felt that Melcher had not given Council enough time to review them, which she says has been common. She was also critical of the mayor for not working collaboratively to create a single region-wide strategic plan.

Despite Bach and fellow Councilors' calls for change, Czelatdko also opposed any modification to the governance of Utilities, noting that, with Council as its board, it is accountable to the public, and that its low rates make it an economic driver.

Though she's led a task force to ask for proposals to study the Martin Drake Power Plant — the mayor has pushed to consider decommissioning it — Czelatdko says she opposes any change, noting that huge investments have been made in the plant, and that closing it would be costly for ratepayers.

Recently, she says, she's been disappointed by Bach's opposition to working with El Paso County to develop a regional plan to fund stormwater infrastructure.

"I just want to be like, 'What's the problem?'" she says. "We actually have people willing to partner with us on trying to solve this incredibly expensive, dangerous problem. Why wouldn't we jump all over that?"

The issue, she says, is that strong personalities and egos have prevented collaboration. "It's always, 'How do we look better?' [Or], 'How does the executive branch look better?'" she says. "Instead of, 'How do we all look better and do the jobs we were hired to do?'"

'We can't be all sunshine and roses up there.'

Communication issues

The transition from private person to public figure can be bumpy. Czelatdko certainly found it so.

The *Gazette*, in particular, brought her embarrassment, drawing attention to some of her questionable social media posts, including one in which she cited her city position in an attempt to garner tickets to a sold-out Pikes Peak Center show. The paper also repeatedly posted a "glamour shot" of her instead of the professional photo she provided.

Czelatdko, who has a master's degree in school counseling, hurt her own cause by reacting emotionally to issues, especially early on. But she says she was targeted for belittlement because she is an attractive woman with a big mouth. She admits having sometimes come off as less than polished in meetings, but notes that the executive branch has the advantage of filtering its messages through a communications staff. Council has no communications staff, and must meet in public.

"Council is made to be a deliberative, republic body," she says. "We can't be all sunshine and roses up there."

Czelatdko says she doesn't plan to endorse any candidate in her (newly redrawn) District 3, or elsewhere. But she hopes whoever is elected won't be afraid to speak as loudly as she has, and that he or she will come in prepared to tackle the huge issues that still lie ahead.

"If you're coming because you've got nothing better to do and you're going to be complacent and sit here and think that the Council is a very minimal, volunteer, part-time position, and you're excited about networking or increasing your notoriety, then stay away," she says. "Seriously, stay away."

Two years, it appears, has done nothing to blunt Czelatdko's sharp tongue.

— stanley@csindy.com

File Photo

'We're constantly bombarded with huge issues ... never catching a breath.'

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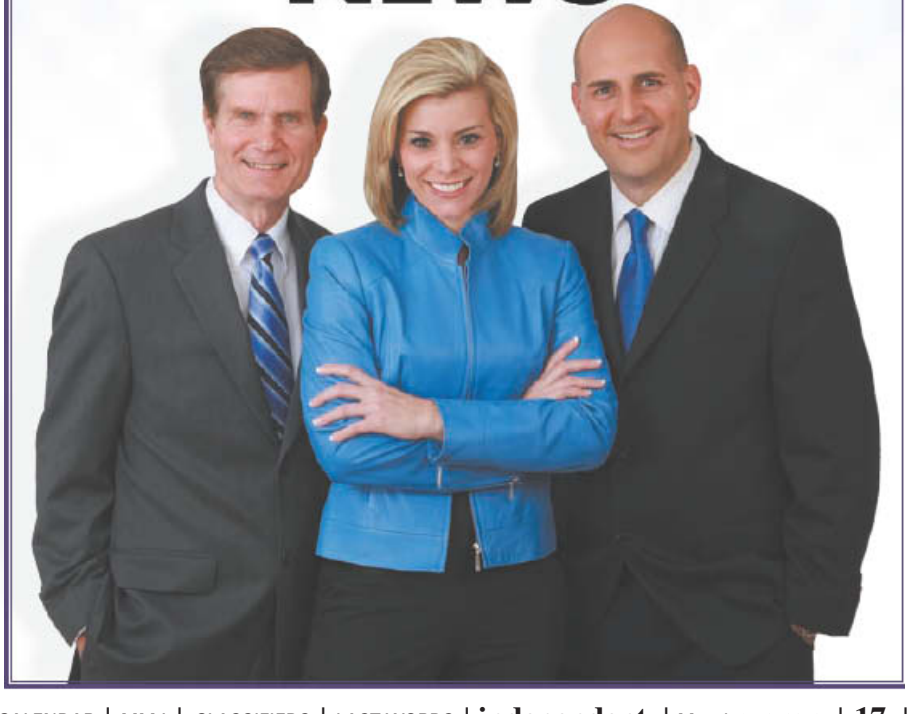


Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

D-11 recall effort under way

Parents upset that the Colorado Springs District 11 Board of Education has voted to close three schools are fighting back. El Paso County Clerk & Recorder Wayne Williams has received petitions to recall six members of the board — everyone except Bob Null, who fought in vain to keep Wasson High School open.

The petitions were brought by Mariam Kurvink, Elaine Shoemaker and Dorothy Dykes, all mothers of Wasson students. Elaine's son Aaron was featured in our Feb. 13 news story "(Making sure) the kids are alright." She says parents presented many plans to the board that weren't considered.

"It was just a total dismissal," she says. "It was almost like they were saying to us, 'You just get out of our business.'"

Williams initially rejected the petitions, but the group plans to resubmit with the minor changes Williams requested. If the documents are eventually approved, the petitions could circulate for 60 days. A minimum of 15,000 verified signatures is required to initiate a recall election for a given board member.

The clerk estimates that an election could come around mid-July if the petitions are successful. D-11 would need to pay for a recall election. In 2006, a recall that ousted two board members (with another resigning) cost $256,729. — ***JAS***

Woman picked to lead AFA

A female has been nominated as superintendent of the Air Force Academy for the first time in its history.

Last week, President Obama nominated Maj. Gen. Michelle Johnson to take over from Lt. Gen. Mike Gould (see Between the Lines, p. 11). A 1981 academy grad with a degree in operations and intelligence, Johnson also has been nominated for a third star, a traditional promotion for academy superintendent.

Currently serving as NATO's deputy chief of staff for operations and intelligence, Johnson was the first female cadet wing commander and the academy's first female Rhodes scholar. She earned a master's degree in politics and economics from Oxford University and also received a master's in national security strategy from the National War College.

Johnson has logged more than 3,600 flight hours in C-141s and KC-135s, among others, and taught political science at the academy from 1989 to 1992. The Senate must confirm the appointment. — ***PZ***

Cash comes to candidates

Those running for six district City Council seats in Colorado Springs raked in more than $81,000 from Feb. 11 to 23, according to campaign finance filings due Monday. Real estate investors and development interests were by far the biggest contributors.

Here's a listing of amounts raised during the most recent cycle:

District 1 (northwest): Joe Barrera, $1,035; Don Knight, $1,950; Tim Leigh, $12,100.

District 2 (north): Angela Dougan, $7,150; Joel Miller, $675; Bill Murray, $0.

District 3 (southwest): Jim Bensberg, $1,400; Tom Gallagher, $300; Keith King, $26,000; Bob Kinsey, no report; Brandy Williams, $4,860.

District 4 (southeast): Helen Collins, $2,153; Gary Flakes, $0; Deborah Hendrix, $8,200; Dennis Moore, $1,080.

District 5 (midtown): Jill Gaebler, $805; Bernie Herpin, $4,090; Al Loma, $2,500; Roger McCarville, $80.

District 6 (Northeast/east): Ed Bircham, $0; David Moore, $5,622; Andres Pico, $1,400. — ***PZ***

County moves on stormwater

El Paso County kicked off the second phase of a stormwater study Feb. 28, with a meeting that included a sprinkling of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs city councilors and county commissioners, as well as interested citizens and county staff. However, Colorado Springs staff, instrumental in the first part of the process, were notably absent from this meeting; Mayor Steve Bach has declined to approve their participation.

In January, a regional task force announced that the region has 601 projects that will cost $906.4 million to complete. More projects are expected to be added due to the flooding risks created by the Waldo Canyon Fire.

Commissioners, led by Amy Lathen, have been eager to have citizens assess and recommend a way to fund the projects. But Bach wants to wait until an engineering firm further maps out the problem. He has also said that he wants Colorado Springs Utilities to at least partially pay for the city's share.

Lathen says the county plans to charge ahead with the funding study regardless. "We're just going to barrel on through," she told a few dozen participants.

The citizen-led group could make a recommendation as soon as July. — ***JAS***

Compiled by Chet Hardin, J. Adrian Stanley and Pam Zubeck.

Drilling discoveries 'disappoint' Ultra

The prospect of a profitable oil and gas industry in El Paso County isn't looking good.

Ultra Petroleum, which holds the majority of approved permits in the county, stated in a year-end earnings call that the petroleum system under our feet is "immature, under-pressured and not commercial." That "disappointing" opinion was reinforced in the company's annual report to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

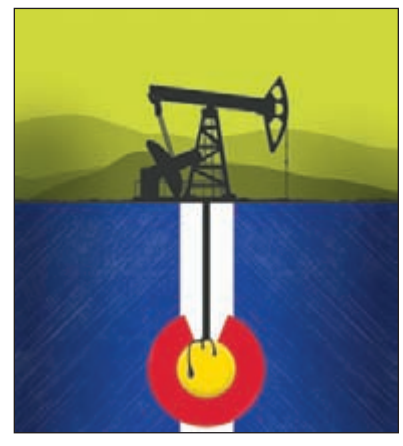
"Ultra assembled 139,000 low-cost acres and deployed it over the past two years and has no significant lease expirations until 2014," said Michael Watford, Ultra chairman, CEO and president, according to a transcript of the earnings call. "We'll continue to monitor industry activity in the region but have no immediate plans for additional exploration in the area."

A call to Ultra for comment was not returned.

"I am wondering if they are formally going to contact the city and say whether they are or are not interested in further exploring," says Colorado Springs City Councilor Val Snider. "If you take this at face value, they've at least tested in the county and it wasn't good enough to continue."

City Council is slated to hold a second reading of its oil and gas regulations Tuesday, March 12. However, if Ultra is no longer interested in the county, it does raise the question as to whether or not Council will need to move ahead, says Snider.

"If they were to call and say no way are they are going to do more work in the county," he says, "maybe we should just postpone the regulations."



Diana May, the county's local government designee — the go-between for the city and the state regulators who oversee oil and gas development — says she has been in contact with Ultra representatives.

"What Ultra has indicated to the county is that there is oil there, but that it is uneconomic to continue any oil operations," she says. "They have no plans to drill Banning Lewis at this point."

Kyle Campbell, Colorado Springs' LGD, has not spoken with the company, but says that he believes the Council should still move forward with a vote on its ordinance. Ultra's suspension of exploration, he notes, could only be temporary.

"It doesn't necessarily mean that economic conditions or other conditions couldn't change," he says. "I think that it is still worth adopting the regulations at this state and time."

— ***Chet Hardin***

CHRIS CROSS

How the city attorney can tip the scales of power toward the mayor, while still representing Council

By Pam Zubeck

Kin Scott

Legal opinions have boosted Bach.

Imagine a lawyer walking into a courtroom intending to represent the prosecution and the defense. It would be preposterous.

But that's akin, some say, to what is happening in Colorado Springs' city government, wherein City Attorney Chris Melcher is expected to represent all branches of the government — even when they're at odds.

The setup, established in the City Charter, means that City Council is under the thumb of a lawyer they didn't hire and can't fire. And it's worked out well for Mayor Steve Bach, who *did* do the hiring and *can* do the firing. With Melcher writing the legal opinions, Bach has secured vast powers in city government.

Why should you care? Because some Councilors argue that the setup is undermining what little authority they have left under the strong-mayor form of government, which replaced the Council-city-manager form when Bach took office in June 2011.

'WE DIDN'T CHANGE the form of government ... TO MAYOR-RUBBER STAMP.'

Council serves as the legislative branch, which under the separation-of-powers doctrine is supposed to be independent from, yet equal to, the executive branch. Council adopts ordinances and passes the budget. It also represents the people's voice in government, with six people representing specific districts of the city and three the city at-large.

Now, as Council struggles to assert its authority, the citizens' biggest asset, Colorado Springs Utilities, hangs in the balance.

Bach has said repeatedly and publicly that he wants to consider selling the power utility and scrapping the Martin Drake Power Plant downtown. (Bizarrely, he's also denied having said both of those things.) It's not clear what he'd like the cleared land under Drake to be used for, though he's mentioned a downtown sports stadium, Olympic museum and convention center.

Bach also has talked of Utilities, with its $4.4 billion in assets, as an obvious target from which to squeeze money for the city's stormwater drainage tab, which a regional task force puts at $686 million. The arrangement would be convenient for the mayor, given that while running for office, he pledged not to raise taxes. (As for how a sale or some other maneuver to divert money from Utilities will affect utility rates, Bach hasn't publicly addressed that question.)

Regardless, a majority of Councilors hold a very different vision. Council is looking into decommissioning Drake, but perhaps 15 years out. As the Utilities Board, on which Bach has no vote, Council has invested millions in new pollution-control equipment for Drake made by homegrown Neumann Systems Group; for committing to Neumann, the city will get a cut from future sales. And most Councilors want to preserve local control over Utilities, a key economic development driver due to its low-cost, reliable service.

The two visions are diametrically opposed. Yet to achieve either, key decisions will go through the city attorney.

Since Bach hired him for his first municipal job in 2011 (see "The man in the middle," p. 25), Melcher has taken steps and issued legal opinions that have expanded the mayor's authority and shrunk Council's say-so on a wide range of issues. Those include the budget, panhandling, red-light cameras, stormwater and more (see "Melcher's law," p. 23).

Some experts say that since the mayor, Councilors and the city attorney all work for a single entity — the city — there literally can't be a conflict. Melcher subscribes to this school of thought. He chose to answer most of our questions via e-mail, and in those written

Kin Scott

Melcher says he's just doing his job.

responses says he serves "all the elected representatives of the City as they conduct the business of the City."

The mayor shares that view, saying in his own written response to questions: "Our City Charter specifies that we have one City Attorney who assists Council, Mayor, Colorado Springs Utilities, Memorial Hospital and all other City enterprises."

But other parties contend this doesn't work. Among them is Councilor Val Snider, who says the legislative branch is being "neutered." Comments his colleague, Bernie Herpin, "We didn't change the form of government from council-manager to mayor-rubber stamp."

'It doesn't DO THE CITY ANY GOOD to have two or three DIFFERENT OPINIONS.'

Charter challenges

In our current form of government, the mayor appoints the city attorney, and Council confirms the appointment. As long as the mayor and Council agree, it's clear sailing from there. But as anyone who's read an *Independent* over the past 18 months knows, Springs Councilors and the mayor often disagree.

Since Councilors approved his appointment 7-0 on Sept. 13, 2011, Melcher has often had words with them. Two instances stand out.

One occurred about a year ago, at the Feb. 27, 2012 Council meeting, when Melcher delivered his opinion that Council's authority to override the mayor's veto on budget items pertains only to "major legislative budgetary determinations." Hence, Melcher said, Bach wasn't obligated to follow Council's directive — from a "veto-proof" majority of six — to spend $175,000 on tennis-court repairs and to hire an additional code enforcement officer.

When President Pro Tem Jan Martin asked for another opinion from an independent lawyer, Melcher argued against it.

"The reason you want to hire another lawyer is because you want to get an opinion you like better," he said. "... What Councilmember Martin is suggesting, as I mentioned, I think, would be a disaster. ... It's what lawyers call forum-shopping. ...

"Outside counsel don't get to issue an independent opinion that they think that the law is different than the city attorney's office thinks it is. ... Really the heart of this issue is that Council I think is adjusting to its new role. The city attorney doesn't report to Council. ... It doesn't do the city any good to have two or three different opinions on the same subject."

Bach was more direct. "In the end, the city attorney's opinion trumps all other opinions," he said at that meeting.

Melcher further argued that any attempt by Council to challenge his opinions in court would be "a tremendous waste of resources. I think it would be a failure of government, I think it would be, especially in the first year of this form of government, it would be a really sad commentary that Council and mayor can't work this out." Council heeded the warning, though it's worth noting that later, and without a change of legal opinion, Bach decided to grant Council its veto. (Of the tennis courts, he simply said, "We are going to implement what Council wants to do.")

File photo

Code enforcement money was at issue in '12.

At the same meeting, Melcher said he believes the Charter gives the mayor authority over all contracts, including those of Utilities. Which, in essence, gives Bach final say in almost anything Utilities does.

Incidentally, the other instance had to do with control of Utilities. Early this year, on Jan. 22, Melcher was to bring Council a ballot measure, sought by a divided Utilities Board (and denounced by the mayor) the previous week, that would have made the board independent and elected by the people, and would have required a two-thirds majority of voters to sell Utilities.

The matter was contentious from the get-go. Angela Dougan and Tim Leigh both argued against the last-minute nature of such an important measure.

Melcher, for his part, complained he had only two business days to do the job, which involved sifting through a stack of paperwork "a foot high." He added that Council rules don't permit him to move ahead with a ballot measure at the behest of two Councilors, referring to Presi-

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dent Scott Hente and Martin. (They had proposed the measure, but a majority of board members agreed to consider it at the Jan. 22 meeting.)

Melcher *did*, apparently, have time to produce a 21-page PowerPoint presentation in which he termed a special election a "waste of money" and argued the measure would "destroy" Utilities, would create a "potential for risky business behavior" and "undermines [the] democratic process" by requiring the two-thirds majority for an asset sale.

The draft measure Melcher had produced on their behalf left Martin furious, because it wasn't in proper form to submit to voters. For one thing, it called for an election in November 2014, instead of later in 2013.

"The documents that we got, I would no more turn over to the citizens ... Anytime Council comes forward with an idea that the executive branch doesn't agree with, then we're stonewalled, just like we have been on this one," she said.

Hente said, "I can't express how disappointed I am with everything," and Councilor Lisa Czelatdko ranted about a lack of legal advice and guidance, and even manipulation.

After Council gave up and everyone left, Melcher issued a statement to the media, but not to Council, giving his reasons why the measure was a bad idea. Which gets to one of the biggest complaints Hente has about Melcher.

"I think my constituents want their elected representatives to weigh in on issues of policy, not appointed individuals," he says, "because we're the ones to be held accountable. What I've always wanted was legal advice, not policy advice."

Melcher replies via e-mail that the Rules of Professional Conduct attorneys must follow allow them to consider "moral, economic, social and political factors, that may be relevant to the client's situation." He goes on to write that the ballot measure could have dealt "significant damage" to the city if it had been "rushed forward."

Déjà vu

Mayor-council arrangements across the country have triggered changes to address the city-attorney question. In Indiana, state lawmakers passed a law that allows councils to hire their own attorneys. In Tampa, Fla., the charter was changed to empower the council to choose independent counsel. And in Los Angeles, city attorney was switched to an elected position; though conflicts still may arise under that scenario, the city attorney isn't serving at the pleasure of the mayor.

But there's disagreement among experts about whether a city attorney representing both sides has a conflict of interest.

A 1976 *Indiana Law Journal* article by Christina McKee calls dual representation "a clear conflict" and says "it is inevitable that the mayor and city council will clash over issues on which the attorney will have been asked to advise both entities."

An *Ohio State Law Journal* article published in 2005 says that "when the mayor and the council have different interests, an impermissible conflict of interest exists" for the attorney. Author Heather Kimmel also notes that ethical rules require all attorneys to avoid conflicts of interest. A city attorney could remove himself from representing the mayor or the council, but Kimmel notes courts have ruled "when a mayor appoints a city attorney, the city attorney's client is the mayor if a conflict arises, even if the ordinances say that a city attorney must represent the mayor, the council, and all city officials."

'What I've ALWAYS WANTED WAS LEGAL ADVICE, not policy advice.'

So that's one view. But Chuck Thompson, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based International Municipal Lawyers Association, says via e-mail that since the attorney represents the city, "there is really only one client." Moreover, Thompson says it's a "bad idea" for councils to hire their own lawyers.

"Whenever you get more than one attorney involved, you are likely to get conflicting opinions," he adds. "While those conflicts may help one or another of the sparring entities politically, they do not really help the city. The last thing you want is for the city to be suing itself, so you don't want the council to be able to sue the executive or appear in court to challenge the executive."

Alec Rothrock of Greenwood Village, an expert in attorney ethics, echoes the one-client assertion. "The fact there are parts of the government squabbling with each other doesn't mean he has a conflict of interest with his clients," he says in an interview. "But the trouble for the lawyer is, 'Who do I take instruction from?' And that is the tricky question. The lawyer has to look at things like the city charter to see who trumps who in that situation."

Melcher has looked to the Charter, as well as case law, to determine in various circumstances whether Council or the mayor is the authority. Some Council members certainly view the Council as a client that should be separate from, not subjugate to, the mayor. And the Rules of Professional Conduct, to which lawyers must adhere or face sanctions against their licenses, prohibit a lawyer from representing a client when "the representation of one client will be directly adverse to another client" unless the lawyer believes he can provide competent counsel to both clients *and* "each affected client gives informed consent, confirmed in writing."

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— Angus Young
"Happy Mega 35th! How come you play the other band more?"
— Dave Mustaine
"Happy Birthday KILO. Twice. From my 2 favorite bands."
— Dave Grohl
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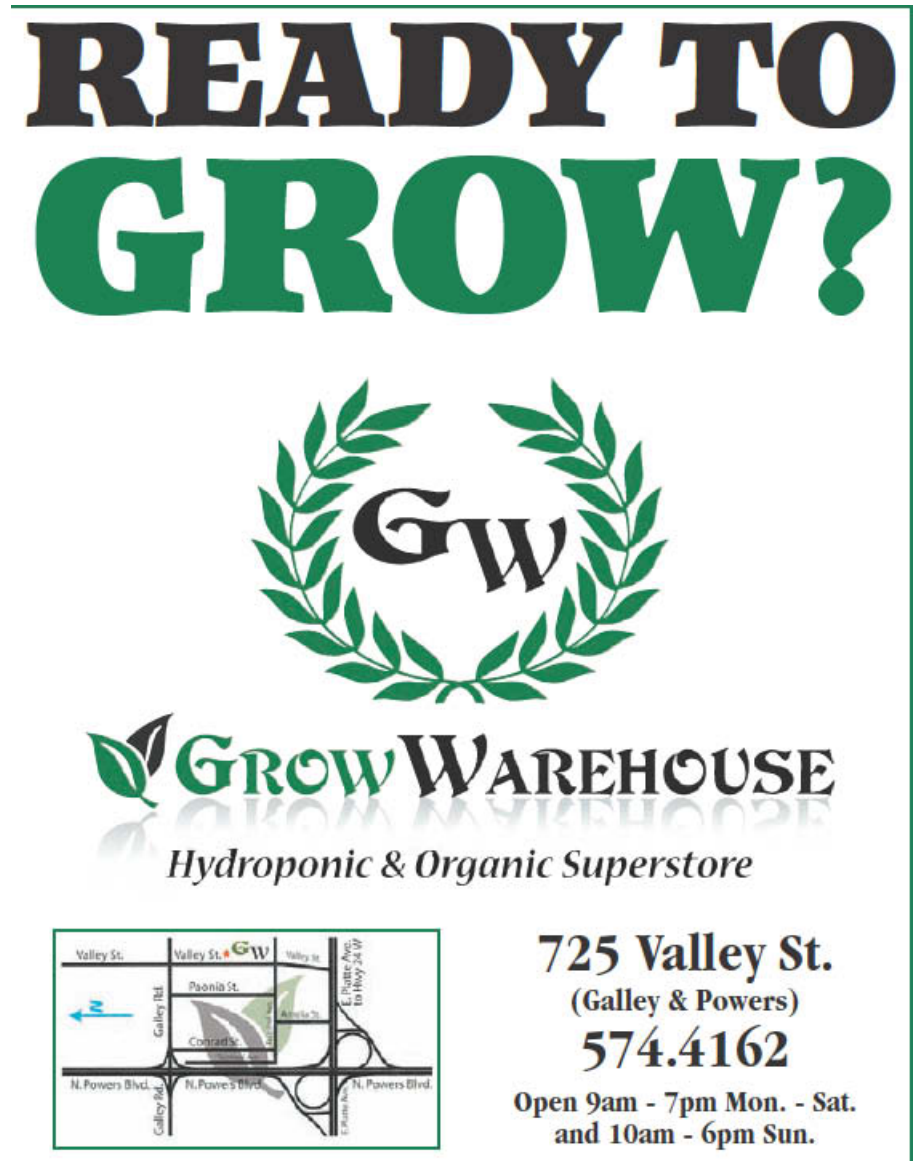
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Having seen no conflict, Melcher says he hasn't sought Council or the mayor's consent for dual representation.

Robert Millman of Colorado Springs is a veteran member of the Colorado Supreme Court's Hearing Board for attorney disciplinary cases. Speaking generally and not about the city's situation, Millman says representing two clients in the same dispute undermines the bedrock of the attorney-client relationship, namely confidentiality.

"You owe your undivided fiduciary duty to your client," he says. "You cannot represent another client if that representation is going to compromise your integrity or your ability to be an advocate to another client. You can't share information. The client has to know whatever he or she tells you in confidence will not get out."

Wherein lies a complication for the Council's contention that things would be solved if it had its own attorney. As an ex-officio Utilities Board member, Bach is entitled to attend closed executive sessions. He's also allowed at closed sessions of regular Council meetings.

That rubber stamp

After Council and Melcher tussled over the Utilities measure, Bach offered Council "better access to legal help." Within days, Deputy City Attorney Wynetta Massey was assigned to assist Council. Of course, Massey still reports to Melcher.

Asked about the arrangement, Melcher writes that "Wynetta consults with the City Attorney to ensure that all legal advice and support to Council is consistent, accurate, and takes into account the other interests and issues that may need to be considered in the City's best interests."

'We're WAY PAST "BOTHERSOME" at this point.'

Councilor Merv Bennett says Massey has been "very helpful" and that her assignment has "allowed us to be more proactive in my mind to getting our work done." He won't discuss his thoughts on the city attorney, except to say he worked with him on the Memorial Health System lease "and his performance was excellent during that time."

But in the time since voters approved the deal in August, Memorial has been the subject of another Melcher-Council dustup. Though a lawsuit against the city for Melcher's early redemption of Memorial Hospital bonds was listed in his quarterly legal report, he didn't formally tell Council about it until the Feb. 11 Council meeting, 3½ months after it was filed.

"I would add it to a laundry list of things that don't come from our attorney," Councilor Brandy Williams says. "We're way past 'bothersome' at this point."

Williams also says Melcher routinely withholds information until the start of Council meetings.

"The protocol is being ignored," she says. "If we get it, it's last-minute, if we get it at all."

So what could Council do? A Charter change

MELCHER'S LAW

A look at the track record that has some Councilors saying everything's gone wrong

By Pam Zubeck

As Chris Melcher points out, when he rebuffs Mayor Steve Bach with a legal opinion, it doesn't make the news —those deliberations aren't public, the way his are with City Council. And Melcher says it does happen.

Still, it's hard to ignore that within a month of his October 2011 appointment as city attorney, Melcher started making decisions that frustrated Council, and limited its influence. Here are a handful.

• **Red-light cameras**: Council passed an ordinance in 2010 to install red-light cameras at four intersections. Soon after his election, Mayor Steve Bach wanted them gone. Since ordinances can be undone generally only via another ordinance, it appeared to be Council's decision. However, Melcher ruled that because Bach holds all contracting authority and because the city contracted for the cameras, Bach could refuse to renew the contract. It expired Oct. 31, 2011.

• **FREX**: Council voted June 12, 2012, to continue the Springs Transit commuter service to and from Denver through the year. Bach wanted it abolished. On June 18, using the same "contracting authority" claim, the city announced Bach wouldn't renew a drivers contract that was to expire Aug. 31. FREX is now defunct.

• **Panhandling**: After months of mulling a downtown ban on panhandling, Council asked Melcher last fall to provide more options. "He kept putting it off until November when we were informed that it had to be done by December for the downtown shops to take advantage of holiday shopping," Council President Pro Tem Martin writes via e-mail. "He rushed [the ban ordinance] through in the last meeting in November and never did present Council with the requested options."

Melcher is writing a new opinion on Issue 300.

Melcher, in written responses to *Indy* questions, says his office worked "diligently, exhaustively, and very promptly throughout 2012" on the panhandling matter.

In any event, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit against the city over the ban Melcher *did* write, and a federal judge issued an injunction, saying it looked unconstitutional. Martin says she and her colleagues haven't been consulted on whether to continue fighting in court; Melcher says that's untrue. He says he plans to ask for their recommendation on the matter in early March, and to act according to that recommendation.

• **Neumann Systems Group**: The Utilities Board, consisting of Council, voted 7-2 on July 18, 2012 to complete installation of Neumann Systems Group emissions-control technology on Martin Drake Power Plant and to launch a decommissioning study of the plant.

File photo

With Melcher's OK, Bach allowed FREX to die.

On Oct. 1, Bach said Utilities should help pay for repairs and upgrades to the city's decrepit stormwater drainage system. Utilities said it cannot legally do so, because bond agreements prohibit money collected for one service from being diverted to another purpose. Yet on Jan. 4, at a meeting in the mayor's office, Melcher said abandoning the Neumann technology would free money for stormwater, according to several people who were there.

"If the Neumann project is stopped, we will have more than enough to do the city's portion" of stormwater projects, stormwater task force member Jan Doran quotes Melcher as saying.

Writes Martin, "This was in direct contradiction to direction from CSU Board on moving forward with Drake/Neumann."

Asked about that apparent conflict, Melcher writes simply that he "has supported both the CSU board and the CSU management in their examination of the complex issues surrounding the Neumann Systems project and the Neumann contract, and will continue to do so as requested."

• **Issue 300 reinterpretation**: The Neumann controversy brings us to Issue 300, which would seem to be the biggest roadblock to Utilities paying for stormwater repairs. Former City Attorney Patricia Kelly advised Council in December 2009 that this voter-approved measure barring gifts between the city and its enterprises, allowed a payment in lieu of taxes from Utilities in exchange for services, such as use of city right-of-way for pipes and power lines. But she also noted Issue 300's intent was "that the enterprise not be used as a source of uncompensated cash, funds or other benefits to the city's general fund."

Councilor Val Snider reports Melcher told him in January he's decided to issue his own opinion about Issue 300. Melcher acknowledges that he is writing a new opinion, but contends Council and the mayor asked for "clarification and guidance during the 2013 Budget deliberations on the role of Issue 300," notably about "surplus funds" from Utilities and discounted water rates.

• **Water for parks**: Bach wants Utilities to give the city free or dramatically discounted water for parks. The Utilities Board never has allowed this, because bond ordinances prohibit free service to any customer. Martin says Melcher is working on a legal opinion that will say Utilities can give water to the city at no charge anyway.

Melcher writes that he is working on an opinion, noting that "most cities in the Front Range, including Denver and Pueblo, receive either discounted water rates or free water from their city-owned utility for watering their parks." He plans to present his opinion to the Board in March.

• **Change in Utilities representation**: Within the last few months, Melcher hired a firm he used to work for, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck of Denver, to assist Utilities' long-standing bond counsel, Sherman and Howard. Council operates as the Utilities Board, and some members say this decision was made without their knowledge. "I think we should have been consulted," says Councilor Bernie Herpin.

Asked about this claim, Melcher answers generally, saying he "always" discusses the hiring of outside counsel with the Utilities board and management.

• **Attorney relocation**: About a year ago, Melcher ordered city attorneys assigned to handle Utilities business to move from their offices at Plaza of the Rockies to his suite in the City Administration Building.

"Why would he do that?" Snider asks. "Why would he want to cut off the flow of information [to Utilities officials] unless they're wanting to influence things? I don't get the feeling he's representing the best interest of Springs Utilities."

Melcher says the goal was to "improve coordination of legal services to both Utilities and the City," and that the move has allowed Utilities attorneys and other attorneys to take a "team approach" to certain issues.

• **Sierra Club**: The environmental group threatened to sue Utilities last year, alleging that Drake's operations violate the Clean Air Act. The Utilities Board directed Melcher to talk to the Sierra Club and to find out what it wanted, Martin says.

Melcher presented a proposed agreement with Sierra Club to the board on Dec. 13 that would stop installation of the Neumann technology while Drake's future is studied. The board rejected it.

On Jan. 17, Melcher hired the global law firm of Sidley Austin under a contract in which the city agreed to pay up to $1 million, including hourly rates of $950 for "case analysis, settlement negotiations, and serving as lead counsel in litigation should the Sierra Club file suit."

— zubeck@csindy.com

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could be proposed, but that could take months or years, and could fail at the polls. It's worth noting, also, that Melcher would write the ballot language that Council would consider. If Council or another party believes the city attorney is acting unethically, a complaint could be filed with the city's Independent Ethics Commission or the Colorado Supreme Court. If an investigation is called, Melcher might have to step aside from advising Council during that time. But even if either panel found that Melcher was in a conflicted position, it's unclear what impact, if any, that would have on Melcher's role.

Then there's the idea of simply sending a message. Because the Charter states, "The City Attorney shall receive such salary as the Council by ordinance shall prescribe," Council presumably could speak their minds by cutting his pay. Unless, of course, Melcher writes an opinion saying otherwise.

File photo

Councilor Martin feels 'stonewalled.'

Randy Purvis, a lawyer who served on Council from 1987 to 1999 and again from 2003 to 2011, says it might be impossible to counter what some Councilors consider a Bach-Melcher partnership, because "A lot of their authority is because they simply say so and then do it."

A pragmatist by nature, Purvis is inclined to encourage Council to get organized and use the powers it has. Council has exclusive authority over the City Auditor's Office, for example, and can direct it to hire consultants and undertake investigations.

"Council needs to start thinking like a legislative body," he says. "They've got to start thinking and acting as a group, and they haven't done it yet."

Sadly, Snider says, Purvis is right. "We don't do anything as a group but fight," he says. "And, in my opinion, that's planned" by Bach, Melcher and others. "It works too well to not have been planned."

The dynamic could change again April 2, but probably not to Council's advantage. If voters elect a majority of Council candidates who agree with Bach's agenda, challenges — informal or otherwise — are likely to be few and far between.

— zubeck@csindy.com

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Getting to know arguably the most powerful unelected person in city government

By Pam Zubeck

Chris Melcher has practiced law and held corporate counsel positions nationwide since graduating from Yale Law School in 1986. But he'd neither served as a legal adviser to a government agency, nor been introduced to Colorado Springs at large, before Mayor Steve Bach appointed him city attorney in September 2011.

In a statement, Bach says he'd never met Melcher but chose him to replace Patricia Kelly (who was retiring) based on a recommendation from former Colorado College president Dick Celeste and "several leading attorneys in the city." Melcher was serving as the college's chief legal officer at the time. He was also volunteering as the Downtown Development Authority's chairman of the board.

Bach says he'd never met Melcher before offering him the job.

Bach says Melcher's Yale degree also figured into his decision, as did Melcher's stint with the Office of Independent Counsel in Washington, D.C., and jobs with "prestigious corporations with complex operations."

After law school, Melcher worked as a law clerk in San Francisco. In September 1987, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing, he went to Wilmer Cutler & Pickering, a Washington, D.C., law firm. (In December 2012, Melcher hired the firm, now named WilmerHale, to handle a lawsuit against the city over early payoff of Memorial Hospital bonds, and a federal lawsuit over the panhandling ordinance. The firm's "not to exceed" figure is $937,000.)

In March 1990, he took a job as associate independent counsel with the Office of Independent Counsel in Washington, D.C., where he stayed for nearly five years — one of his lengthiest tenures.

In January 1995, Melcher moved to Brownstein Hyatt & Farber. (Melcher hired the firm, now named Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, within two weeks of starting his city job, and has since retained the firm for work involving Memorial Hospital, Springs Transit and Colorado Springs Utilities, among other issues. The contracts are worth a total of more than a quarter of a million dollars.)

From July 1996 to September 1997, he served as senior regulatory counsel with Southern California Edison, and then moved to KN Energy, based in Lakewood, where he provided legal services on "regulated and unregulated market activities and directing corporate strategy in federal and state proceedings," according to the SEC.

The SEC filing reports that in January 1999, Melcher moved to Internet Commerce & Communications as vice president of law and policy, general counsel and corporate secretary. In August 2000, he was named executive vice president of strategic development, general counsel and corporate secretary.

In 2001, according to his résumé, Melcher joined Qwest Communications, Denver, as executive director for policy and law responsible for municipal relationships. While there, he filed comments in communications cases in which he complained about local regulation.

For example, in a Dec. 19, 2001, filing with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Melcher, working along side Wilmer Cutler lawyers also representing Qwest, wrote that "the most pernicious — but certainly not the only — forms of municipal interference with national policy favoring deployment of communications facilities are the attempts to extract exorbitant fees from carriers for the use of public rights-of-way."

He also worked on a case before the California Public Utilities Commission, along with other communications companies. One of them was AT&T, represented by Sidley Austin Brown & Wood, of San Francisco. (Melcher has hired that firm, which has 18 offices worldwide and is now named Sidley Austin, in an agreement dated Jan. 17 for "case analysis, settlement negotiations, and serving as lead counsel in litigation should the Sierra Club file suit ... regarding Drake and Nixon [power] plants." The contract contains a "not to exceed" figure of $1 million.)

In 2003, Melcher became vice president of law and public policy for Adelphia Communications in West Palm Beach, Fla. In 2006, he joined Colorado College as its chief legal officer; as of 2011, his compensation, with benefits, totaled $205,817, according to IRS records.

When that position was targeted for elimination, Melcher accepted Bach's offer of $183,736 a year, and a monthly car allowance of $706. His salary today is $187,529.

Asked about his hiring of firms as city attorney that he's worked for in the past, Melcher writes that he worked for Wilmer Cutler and Brownstein many years ago, and adds, "They are both nationally renowned firms with extraordinary lawyers, and were selected for their work on an objective and competitive basis."

— zubeck@csindy.com

Colorado College Department of Theatre and Dance presents

"I am THE SPACE where I am"

An installation performance event, *I am the space where I am*, reverberates throughout the Cornerstone building with poetic imagery and movement, constructed environments, spoken word, and intimate narratives. Corners, ledges, stairways and stairwells in Cornerstone, the buildings ordinary and hidden spaces, are revealed and layered with memory and new meanings. Audiences are invited to set their own course through the building and discover the interrelated events for a two-hour period over three nights. No tickets required.

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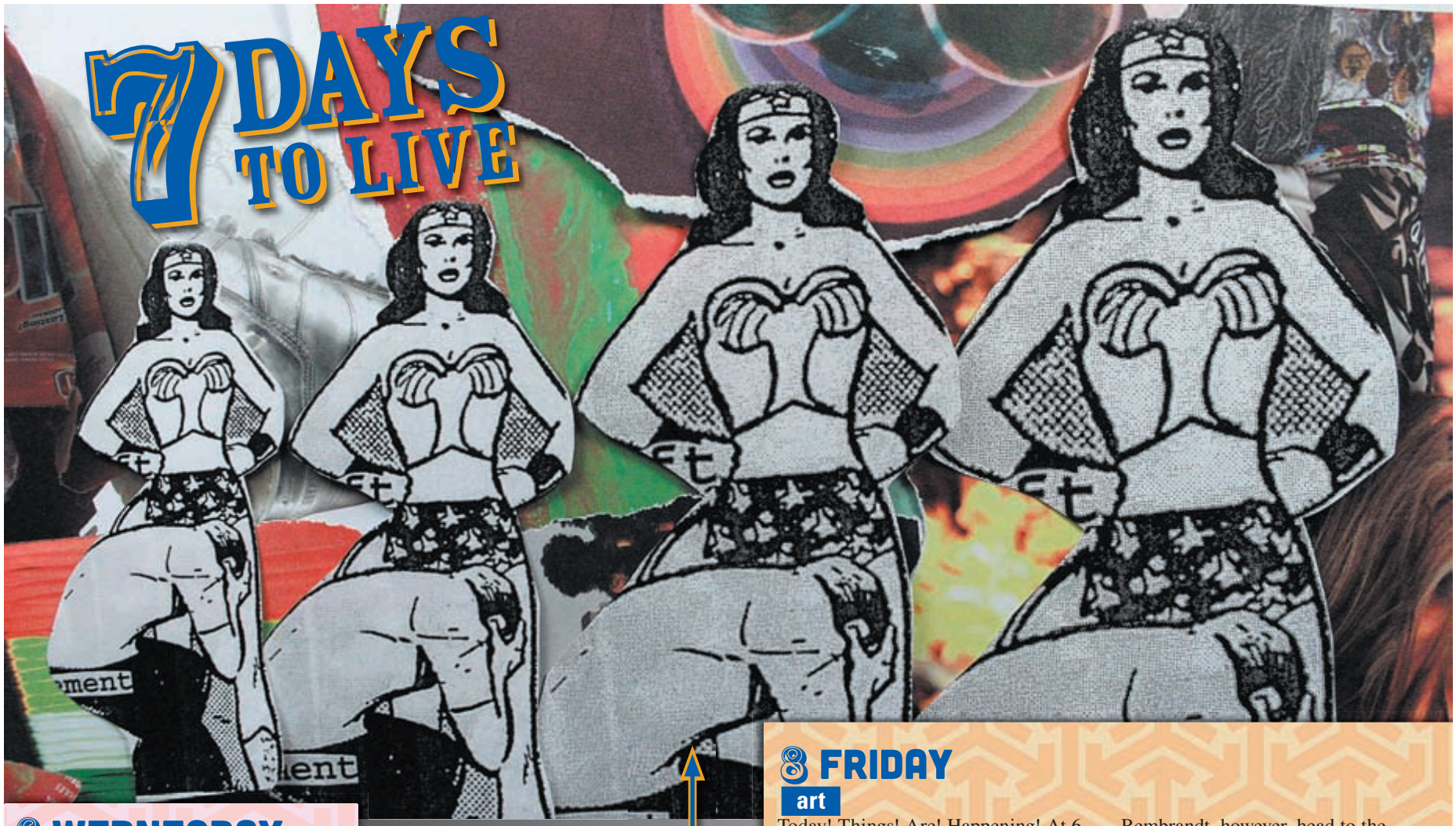
7 DAYS TO LIVE



6 WEDNESDAY
lectures

Crêpes are relatively easy to cook, says *Cook's Illustrated*, as long as you do two things exactly right: Use just enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan, and be sure to heat that bad boy to the proper temperature; the latter's important to get that perfect, "spotty brown" complexion. And if you want to know more about crêpes and chroma, hit the Gallery of Contemporary Art's weekly **ChitChat** series, at 7 tonight at **GOCA 121** (121 S. Tejon St., galleryuccs.org). The mash-up lecture series features Dr. Tom Christensen talking about the physics of color, and Coquette's Bistro & Bakery owner Turu Marx Eurich offering an edible education on crêpe creation. Requested donation of $5 to $10. **— *BC***

7 THURSDAY
film

One critic calls ***Wonder Women! The Untold Story of American Superheroines*** "candy for your inner feminist." A viewing of the documentary's trailer shows why: It traces the rise of the female superhero persona during World War II, takes it through the Women's Lib movement, and hits upon influential punk rock girls and strong characters in TV and film, from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* to *Terminator*'s Sarah Connor. Catch the free Community Cinema screening at 6 or 8 tonight at the **Tim Gill Center for Public Media** (315 E. Costilla St., ifsoc.org). Might I recommend wearing your "Girls Kick Ass" shirt versus your Batman or Spiderman garb? **— *MS***

8 FRIDAY
art

Today! Things! Are! Happening! At 6 p.m. at **G44** (1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, g44gallery.com), Michael Dowling will return from a two-year hiatus with his exhibit *You Already Know How This Will End*. If you're more interested in experiencing "physical manifestations of ethereal phenomena" versus traditional Italian methods of Tito and Rembrandt, however, head to the **Downtown Studio** at Pikes Peak Community College (100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., ppcc.edu/departments/art/ppcc-art-gallery) at 5 to see ***AIR LIGHT BREATH***, the combined works from Corey Drieth, Donny Dixon, DeLane Bredvik and Tanya Gelster. And at 7, **Sabi** (330 N. Institute St., tinyurl.com/dx5gtdf) will celebrate its one-year anniversary with Tylan Troyer, Richard Arnot, Marc Huebert and Seth Lockard, and entertainment by DJ SEWN, dancers, a fire eater and a magician. **— *MG***

4Play
Other options to get you excited about your week.

Backup plan
Coming Home, with Susan Dawn Carson, 7 p.m., Saturday, March 9 at the Millibo Art Theatre

Before you know it
St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 16 in downtown Colorado Springs

Potato pick
Preachers' Daughters series premiere, 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 12 on Lifetime

Have you heard?
Paper made from rocks. You read that right. tinyurl.com/ah9zt35

9 SATURDAY

art

I once attended a nonprofit workshop in which the presenter reamed everyone in the room. "Don't say you work for a *nonprofit*," he said with a sneer. "Don't identify yourself by saying what you're *not*." I doubt that little man would feel as comfortable dressing down the participants in ***We Are Not Rembrandt III***, the event starting at 6 tonight at **Zodiac** (230 Pueblo Ave., zodiacvenue.com). On the visual art side, K8E Orr, Marcea Flowers and about a dozen others will show and sell their works; on the music side, Chauncy Crandall and Andrea Stone & Friends headline. Entry's $5 at the door, and if you buy some art, a portion of your payment will go to All Breed Rescue & Training. ***— KW***

10 SUNDAY

music

While the **Colorado Springs Philharmonic** still has its Vanguard and Pops programs, the orchestra's bread and butter continues to be its Masterworks series. And there are few works more masterful than those of this weekend's repertoire, which includes Strauss' *Don Juan*, Prokofiev's *Symphony No. 5*, and Mozart's *Violin Concerto No. 4* with Philharmonic concertmaster Michael Hanson as featured soloist. This will also be music director Josep Caballé-Domenech's first local performance since the announcement of his taking on a second post as GeneralMusikDirector of the Staatskapelle Halle in Germany. If you missed last night's 8 o'clock concert, catch the encore today at 2:30 at the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com). Tickets range from $19 to $59. ***— BF***

11 MONDAY

dance

Take me back to the robot. To the days when dancing happened low, on cardboard, and floor rocking turned seamlessly into the back spin, then the freeze; to the days when "Rapper's Delight" was going strong and loud on every Conion ghettoblaster. Breakdancing is candy to the senses, the streets' ballet, and tonight local B-boy crew **Soul Mechanics** wants to feed your sweet tooth at **Ormao Dance Company** (10 S. Spruce St., ormaodance.org). Let the Mechanics take you back to the age of LL Cool J, Run DMC, and the Beasties with a free public dance jam happening tonight, and every Monday and Wednesday, at 9. ***— MB***

12 TUESDAY

art

According to a quick spin through Wikipedia, the view of the Cerro Pedernal from Georgia O'Keeffe's Ghost Ranch was one of the artist's favorites. "I painted it often enough thinking that, if I did so, God would give it to me." Upon O'Keeffe's death at 98, relatives scattered her ashes up there. Yet the Pedernal isn't the only aspect of New Mexico that O'Keeffe loved — she also painted the local architecture and Native American idols, like the Hopi *katsina tithu* (commonly known as kachina dolls). That's the conceit behind the 53-piece ***Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico: Architecture, Katsinam, and the Land***, now on display at the **Denver Art Museum** (100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy., denverartmuseum.org). The show is included in general admission — $3 to $13, free for members — and on display Tuesdays through Sundays through April 28. ***— EA***

Contributors: Edie Adelstein, Miguel Bustamante, Bryce Crawford, Bill Forman, Matthew Grieson, Matthew Schniper and Kirk Woundy.

BRING ME TO LIFE

Blending stage, screen and song, *Immortal Solstice* is home-grown horror

By Matthew Grieson

Juan Ponce de León supposedly hunted the fountain of youth, Chinese emperor Qin Shi Huang searched for the elixir of life, and the fictional Gilgamesh tried to stay awake for six days and seven nights — but none obtained immortality.

That's the eternal dilemma of all living things, but also an unending source of inspiration.

On the night of Pueblo's 2011 Christmas parade, friends Shannon Dionese, 45, and Lore' Buswell, 48, sat up until 5 a.m. discussing ways to expand the potential of their 3½-year-old performance troupe, Caretaker and the Graveyard Girlz. The group had generally been doing 10- to 20-minute dances and skits between rock-band performances at bars and music venues, but they knew that wouldn't long sate their appetite for the stage.

"We decided to make this big, and make ourselves immortal, so that we could add sequels," Buswell says.

The product, *Immortal Solstice*, is an elaborate, sinister work of mixed-media entertainment, using loops of film and stage performance. You'll literally see the film come to life as a carriage moves from screen to stage, and hunted gypsies face stalkers on- and off-screen.

The story begins with a family of gypsies who take refuge in a castle — Bishop Castle in Wetmore, actually — and discover its evil inhabitant. They respond by running into the nearby woods, where they encounter a former "white witch." She once was a witch of healing and goodness, but when villagers discovered her trying to save a dying girl, they asked no questions before burning her alive.

Seeing opportunity, the castle's insidious tenant brings her back and grants her immortality, but also makes her dark and vengeful. When the sorceress encounters Ambrogino, the gypsy leader, she forces him to choose between death and immortality.

He chooses eternal life, not knowing that the bargain requires him to take the souls of every member of his family. He obliges aggressively, and with each death, the gypsies transfer to the immortal dark side, each needing to consume souls of their own.

First shown in Pueblo in November, the production's since been revamped and extended. In addition to an extra 20 minutes of footage, Lori Trejo, chief choreographer, has added two dances that will help the audience get better acquainted with the Graveyard Girlz' voyage — the story of how the group became ... whatever exactly they are.

"The characters that Shannon and I developed for this are very close to who they really are off of the stage," Buswell says. "Someone asked about Shannon's real personality outside of the show ... We all laughed and said, 'The Caretaker' *is* Shannon's real personality. He does have the leader effect, almost like the Pied Piper. He has a sinister side of humor, but he also takes people under his wing and protects them or anyone in his circle."

Who knew this was a biography, too?

— mgrieson@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Immortal Solstice

Saturday, March 9, 7 p.m.

Damon Runyon Theater, 611 N. Main St., Pueblo

Tickets: $10-$12; for more information, call 719/821-9534 or visit facebook.com/graveyardgirlz.

★★ Citizens Project Election Education Forum ★★

Join us to hear from candidates in all six districts

Watch them debate and answer media questions and audience questions.

This forum will be broken down by districts - come for yours or stay for them all.

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EVENT DETAILS

Tues., March 12, 2013

Doors open 5:15 PM

Forum 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Special Guest Moderator Joe Cole - FOX21

District 4: 5:30 PM,
District 6: 6:00 PM,
Distict 2: 6:30 PM,
District 1: 7:00 PM,
District 3: 7:30 PM,
District 5: 8:00 PM

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'11 MINI Cooper Clubman

'08 Chevrolet Tahoe LT

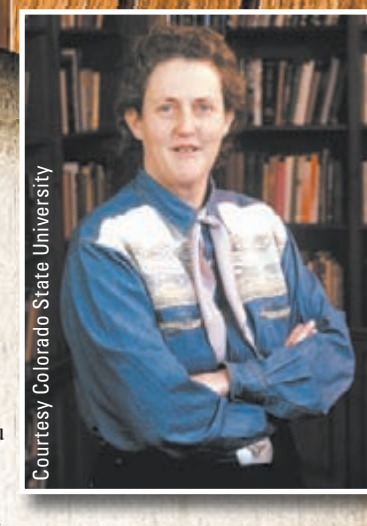
'12 Dodge Charger SE

'08 Dodge Challenger SRT8

GRAND VISION

CSU professor Temple Grandin uses her autism to challenge societal ways of thinking

By Kirsten Akens


Courtesy Colorado State University

On one hand, Temple Grandin's points of focus — industrial design, animal welfare issues, and the autism she lives with — seem disconnected. But when you consider her beginnings, and what might have sunk in early on, they fit together nicely.

"The only place I could get away from teasing," Grandin says, was "horseback riding and the electronics lab. Kids who were interested in the specialized activities, did not do teasing."

Grandin, now 65, has come a long way from those challenging school years. She's been a professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University in Fort Collins for more than two decades. She's found strengths through her autism that have allowed her to look at livestock handling in a very different way, and turned her into a consultant for many large food-industry corporations. She travels internationally, speaking primarily on autism and animal handling. *Time* magazine named her one of the Top 100 most influential people in the world in 2010.

Many people know her from the HBO biopic *Temple Grandin*, for which Claire Danes took the lead role and won a Golden Globe in 2011. The film's tagline, "Autism gave her a vision. She gave it a voice," exemplifies what Grandin says she's most proud of: "What makes me happy is when the things I do ... make the world a better place."

The *Independent* spoke with Grandin during a quick trip she made home to Fort Collins between presentations at autism and Asperger's syndrome conferences in Chicago and Columbus, Ohio. Here we'll present, in her own words, some of the areas she's most passionate about — from her childhood, to the advantage autism can give some individuals, to scientific research, including a 33,000-plus-case National Institute of Mental Health study released last week showing a genetic link among autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, major depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

On her success

"My mother was always pushing me to do new things. She didn't just shove me into things, but when I was very young I had to put on my party dress and serve hors d'oeuvres at my mother's dinner parties, and shake hands with guests. That taught really important skills. ...

"I got kicked out of a large girls' school for throwing a book at a girl who teased me. I went to boarding school. First two years they didn't make me study, but, boy, did I learn how to work.

"I cleaned eight horse stalls every day. And I couldn't be a recluse in my room. I had to attend meals on time. Had to sit through classes, even though I didn't study. Had to get up in the morning, these basic skills. And then my great science teacher came along two years later, and that's where he got me turned around and he got me studying."

On education

"Well, you see the problem is it's all been taken over by the verbal thinkers. I think one of the worst things is that schools have gone ahead and taken out all the hands-on classes. Sewing, cooking, wood shop, metal shop, drafting, drawing, automobile shop — all the things that can teach skilled trades. Because right now we have a huge shortage in this country of skilled trades, things like certified welders, diesel mechanics, auto mechanics, machinists, people to fix electric wires.

Courtesy Colorado State University

Grandin teaches classes in livestock handling at CSU.

"Now, I'm talking very skilled trades. Metal refinery technicians. I'm not talking about putting up Sheetrock. I'm talking about trades that go way above that.

"I think there are different kinds of minds, you see. Look at one country in this world that doesn't have a messed-up economy, and that's Germany. And they still do the [vocational education] stuff."

Without autism ...

"... You probably wouldn't have any Silicon Valley. You probably wouldn't have a phone to talk on now. Half of Silicon Valley's got a little bit of [an] autism trait. You take out some social circuits, you get geek circuits.

"Just a little bit of these traits give some advantage. You see, that's the thing. And too much of the trait, and you've got problems. When you look at creative writing, there was actually a study that was done years ago, 25 years ago. N.C. Andreasen did a study — in fact I quoted it in the first edition of *Thinking in Pictures,* and that was back in '95 — that the creative writers have more depression and the only writers that didn't have more depression were biographers."

On the new research

"Genetics is extremely complicated. Because basically it seems to be there are some shared genetics on the calcium channels — this is involved with brain development — between ADHD, autism, major depression, bipolar, schizophrenia. ... Now I've always thought there was a crossover, because some of the drugs cross over. Like, there's some individuals with autism that do well with ADHD drugs ...

"Another thing I've seen for years, and I've said this for years, is when you look at the family histories, often on both sides of the family you'll find some epilepsy, you'll find some depression, some anxiety, learning problems. You'll find other disorders. ...

"It makes total sense. But it's not like, 'Oh, we're gonna go in and do a DNA test now.' It's nowhere near that. Don't even think you're gonna go there."

On autism's 'spectrum'

"At one end you've got Steve Jobs and Einstein. At the other end you've got somebody who's very severely handicapped, and they have epilepsy on top of it and is not gonna be, you know, doin' high level work. But I'm seeing too many of these smart kids and kids a lot milder than me, they get a label and they sort of become a label. ...

"Half of Silicon Valley is on the spectrum. Half of the NASA space scientists are on the spectrum. Why don't you go look up the scientists that did the latest Mars rover? You got the Mohawk guy, the Elvis guy and the old hippie. They all sit in a row in the control room. There's a picture of them on the Internet that I found. All three of them together. ...

"Eccentric's OK. I want to say it: Eccentric's OK."

— kakens@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Distinguished Speaker Series: Temple Grandin

Wednesday, March 13, 7 p.m.

Colorado State University-Pueblo, OUC Ballroom, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo.

Free; for more information, visit colostate-pueblo.edu.

Appetite

Haute and bothered

North Academy's strong new Thai joint will stir your senses

By Matthew Schniper

Brienne Boortz

Papaya salad appetizer, served at Level 4 heat? Yes, please.

Our car's nearly 40 yards from the door, rolling out of the parking lot, when one of Sengchanh Thai's employees catches up and bangs on a back window, startling us all. No, not a post-meal carjacking — instead, the valiant returning of a purse left behind by a friend.

Now *that*'s service. And two-month-old Sengchanh exceeds what one might expect inside the former House of Yakitori 7 space on North Academy Boulevard. White tablecloths, fresh flower vases and candles (even during daylight hours) follow suit. All this, with the average entrée price hovering around eight bucks.

As for the familiar curries, noodles and rice plates — given a tiny Laotian skew by chef Chantho Bouphaphanh, the aunt of owner Jessica Vongnarat — many are exemplary, while only a few require tweaking.

Addressing that small percentage of rocky dishes before focusing on the roaring ones, let's start with the most should-be-awesome dish anywhere, the pad Thai. It's got the look, including fresh garnish like cilantro and super-fine carrot and cabbage shavings, plus a lime wedge and generous crumbled peanuts. The textures are spot-on, too, with perfectly moist noodles and juicy meats. But the tamarind in ours, ordered at a 3 on the restaurant's 1 through 5 heat index, is somehow out of balance with the scant sweetness and medium spice, creating an off-putting tinge of sourness and less-than-optimal *wok hay* (the "breath" of the cooking vessel) as the central flavor.

Also, my criticism of the "house special" Sengchanh Fried Rice, with (most notably) squid bits, shrimp curls, pineapple cubes and roasted peanuts, is that for all those inputs, it remains an understated dish with a pervading blandness. Not bad, but it reads from the menu much bigger than it tastes.

CAPSULE

Sengchanh Thai Cuisine

7525 N. Academy Blvd., 594-4471

Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Leafy lovin'

The gossamer rice noodle tangle on the otherwise colorful Pad Woon Sen plate — it bears carrots, tomatoes and Napa cabbage — displays a similar subtlety. But here the tables turn: It also has an elegance, almost equivalent to that of a beautiful, clear Chinese broth where base flavors surprise as they emanate from the translucence.

From a daily specials board, the Palam Chicken, not a far departure from Indonesia's Gado-gado, woos with a muddy, semisweet, dopamine-sparking peanut sauce over stalky steamed veggies and moist, fried chicken strips.

That same lovely sauce, plus a sticky sweet chili dip, accompanies the Thai sampler platter of non-greasy, crispy tofu triangles; excellent house egg rolls; hugely lemongrass-infused, spongy fish cakes; and more succulent chicken satay skewers.

Larb salad also makes for a good shared appetizer, the minced pork (or chicken) bursting with minty, citric, chili-onion essence pinched inside cabbage leaves. The outstanding papaya salad, too, sings with citrus notes, this time laced with chili-garlic punch — the spicy juice rendering the unripe fruit shavings into a jicama-like treat. Ordered at a searing Level 4 heat, it delivers the digestive smackdown.

In dishes where floral herbs and curries imbue coconut milk, both the green curry and Tom Kha Gai soups achieve the finest expressions of their respective ingredients. Extending from rhizome to foliage in the case of the Tom Kha Gai, kaffir lime leaf, lemongrass and galangal root flavors simply explode from the bowl, an initial velvety tartness fading to a thin residual sweetness across the palate. Picture the Doppler effect as a taste experience.

A fallen-Jenga-like mass of thin, rectangular bamboo shoots serves as sauce-soaking filler, and perhaps the most distinguishing characteristic, in the green curry — though typical eggplant and bell peppers lend their fiber, with ample basil leaves contributing a soulful scent and keystone flavor.

A short-grain brown rice option ($2; white rice is $1.50, and neither is included) is appreciated, though the sporadic use of MSG across the menu isn't, especially when one forgets to ask it be left out.

Bad-ass bananas

Artfully arranged plates spotlight the short dessert selection of either mango sticky rice ($4.50) or coconut or green tea ice cream (not house-made, but totally serviceable) with fried bananas ($3). The sesame-seed-flecked, coconut-cream-doused rice, despite one over-toasted hard edge, walks that gorgeous line of sweet and salty fusing into one, and sings as a starchy cohort to the soft fleshy fruit. The ice creams, again appreciatively treated with a hard rain of crumbled peanuts, are almost eclipsed by the six fantastic, crunchy-crusted banana rounds orbiting the single scoop under a pretty mint garnish.

We're so taken aback by them that we inquire about the battering. And there that outstanding service comes again, with Vongnarat, a Bay Area transplant, returning from the kitchen displaying a bag of Sing Kung Corp Banana and Shrimp Batter Mix — available at Asian import stores, constructed partially out of wheat flour and potato and corn starches.

It seems that culinary secrets don't necessarily make Sengchanh's Thai food largely superior. It's just good people working hard to make good food.

And that's more than good enough.

— matthew@csindy.com

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SIDE Dish

Culinary crumbs & gastronomic gossip

Snack 'n stretch

Godzilla-sized disclaimer right up front on this one, in the interest of full disclosure: I have a direct tie to one of the businesses mentioned below, but I don't intend for this to be an endorsement for it. There's some legitimate food news here, people, and I have an inside scoop. So here goes.

Tabor Mountain Bakehouse (tabormountainbakehouse.com), which only six months ago grew out of Gotta Love It! Market into its own storefront in the Mountain Mama Natural Foods shopping center, is already expanding again due to demand. This time, the outfit has moved into the former La Petite Maison building at 1015 W. Colorado Ave., with additional food selections and wellness programming promised in the added square footage.

TM's flexible menu of gluten-, dairy-, refined sugar-, corn-, egg- and soy-free products, with additional catering to raw-food, vegan and grain-free paleo diets plus specific allergen requests (by custom pre-order), will grow to incorporate new products such as cinnamon rolls, focaccia and baguette breads for house sandwiches, and bread bowls for house soups. The deli-style service (Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) allows for quick to-go or in-house dining, alongside Wi-Fi and locally sourced coffee, tea or Kombucha.

To my disclaimer: Owner Kristi Hayes has carved out space in the building for a new yoga studio, **Songbird Yoga**, operated by my fiancée who recently began baking for TM part-time. The two women envision convenient crossovers, such as a morning class followed by a light meal.

"We're embracing the connection between food, health and wellness," says Hayes, a former nurse, noting on-site Reiki and massage offerings plus a planned "therapeutic" garden plot. TM tentatively plans to have doors open Friday, March 8, with both businesses hosting a grand-opening celebration on the 15th. Expect samples, demos and more.

Crave accolades

A big congrats to **Crave Real Burgers** (7465 N. Academy Blvd., craverealburgers.com) for earning a spot on Zagat's list of The Best Burgers in 25 Cities. This comes on the heels of winning the People's Choice award at the 2012 Denver Burger Battle, and shortly thereafter placing as one of the top finalists at the World Food Championships in Las Vegas.

The Castle Rock company expanded into the Denver area with a Highlands Ranch location in December. It also qualified for a Colorado Proud certification, reflecting use of all Colorado-raised beef and seasonal produce. Owner Jeff Richard, asked about further expansion, says, "Eventually, sure — but we aren't doing anything for at least a year ... we're trying to make sure that we don't screw up."

— Matthew Schniper

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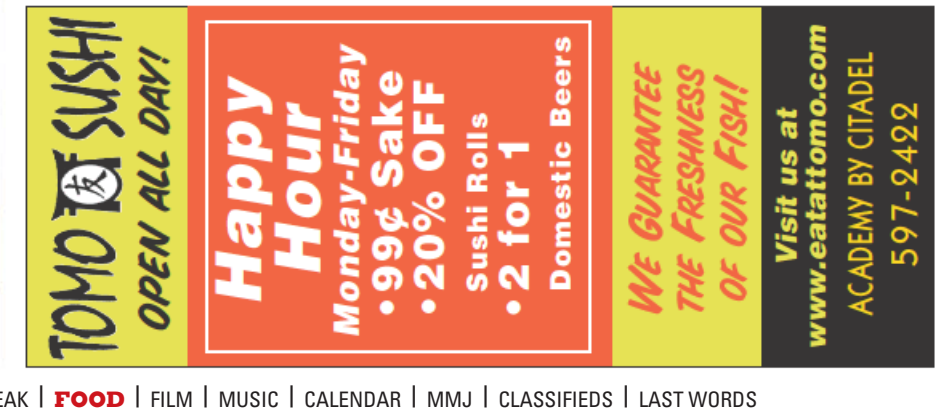

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Dine&Dash Quick takes on food and drink

Rocky Mountain Brewery

625 Paonia St., 528-1651

Three words: World Beer Cup. Rocky Mountain Brewery won both gold and silver last year in the prestigious competition's fruit beer category. So who cares if it's buried in a fairly drab industrial area near PT's Showclub? Master brewer Duane Lujan doesn't — he and head brewer Nick Hilborn stay plenty busy as it is, he says, brewing such fun, off-kilter brews as a Szechuan Porter laced with garlic, ginger, chile paste and toasted sesame seeds. "We're like children with ADD with no access to Ritalin," he jokes.

On a given day, you'll find nearly a dozen small-batch beers on tap, best tried via the four-beer **sampler paddle** ($4). Our two featured everything from that rightfully award-winning Eat a Peach to a potent, oak-pellet-infused, beet-sugar-amped double IPA and a burly cherry-wood-smoked brown ale. The latter was a stellar pairing with our accompanying B'z barbecue. — ***Matthew Schniper***

B'z BBQ Company

625 Paonia St., 271-6881, bzbbqco.com

B'z, a barbecue trailer connected to RMB's patio for the past five years, dishes meats and sauces that owner Brad Hammond and a former business partner refined over nearly a dozen years competing on the national barbecue circuit — prestigious events like Memphis in May and the Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational. Hammond holds his cards close with secret ingredients that influence even sides like an excellent cole slaw, which sports ample tang without being watery.

Scoop the slaw onto the 12-hour-smoked **pulled pork sandwich** ($7) with B'z awesome, Scovie Award-winning Spicy Peach Habanero BBQ Sauce for a beautiful Eat a Peach beer-paired treat. A Continental Bakery **buffalo brat** ($5.95) sees red onion slivers over the brown-sugar-sweetened house Carolina Mad Mustard for impressive effect. Between the stellar brew and Q, this is one Springs patio (or taproom) where you need to spend more time. — ***Matthew Schniper***

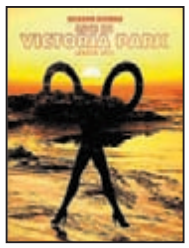
Stella's Mexican Food

412 Royalty Place, Fountain, 382-4846

Stella's opened last August just off I-25's Exit 128 in Fountain, and already appears poised to knock neighboring El Rodeo Mexican Food out of its tiny corner of the strip mall with expansion of its long, taupe-hued dining area. Prices are cheap, the family is sweet, and a 15-percent military discount caters to the demographic.

But the food lacks spice and depth, with super-starchy, gloopy red and green chilies hardly distinguishable from one another and all things described as "hot," actually not. After a bite, I dump my cup of **pork green chile** ($2.89) onto my **Fountain Stacked Enchiladas** ($7.99), where red chile already rests over two corn tortillas and tender but flavorless shredded pork. Refried beans are bland while the Spanish rice bears a modicum of personality, but is uneven and tough, either from a reheat or under-cooking. Salty, house-fried chips help, but everything's just ... so ... painfully ... insipid. — ***Matthew Schniper***

CineFiles



Scissor Sisters: Live in Victoria Park, London 2011 (NR)

Wienerworld

One of the most underrated bands of the past decade, the Scissor Sisters are a flamboyantly fun time, the kind of act that can have you jumping around your bedroom with their spirited paeans to sexualized excess, or leave you sobbing on the bathroom floor with one of their "the party's over" ballads. *Live* captures them at the 2011 Lovebox Festival in London in support of their then-current album *Night Work*. Clad in latex and gyrating to every bass pump, the Sisters keep going strong throughout the DVD's hour-long running length. Classics like "I Don't Feel like Dancin'," "Filthy/Gorgeous" and "Comfortably Numb" are played with a ferociously infectious energy that would make anybody feel like dancing. While the disc is bare-bones (the only special features are two additional songs), the performance makes up for it. And now that they are officially on hiatus, it might be the only way to see them for a long time. — ***Louis Fowler***

Wreck-It Ralph (PG)

Buena Vista

Today's video-game landscape has made the brick-and-mortar arcade practically irrelevant. So Disney's major animated effort for 2012, revolving around a *Donkey Kong*-esque relic and its anxiety-ridden inhabitants, seemed almost dorky. But thanks to a perfectly suited crew, featuring writer-director Rich Moore and passionate voice-overs from John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman and others, the story of a bad guy's existential quest to change his destiny places *Wreck-It Ralph* in the vaunted company of *Toy Story*. Whereas that era-defining film saw its supposedly inanimate subjects questioning their worth, *Ralph* is fascinated with its characters' efforts to accept their predetermined roles: Reilly's Ralph, a career heel, wants to be a good guy; Silverman's Vanellope is an outcast yearning to be a star; and Jack McBrayer's tender-hearted optimist, Fix-It Felix, is tired of having to solve everyone's problems. The result is wildly entertaining and aggressively clever. — ***Justin Strout***

Border Run (R) (Blu-ray)

Anchor Bay Home Entertainment

As the war on both sides of the border continues to burn, Hollywood continues to take full advantage of it, releasing Oscar-nominated fare like *A Better Life*, which tells the heartfelt story of an undocumented father and son crossing over to make a better life for themselves. *Border Run* is nothing like that. No, instead it is a wonderfully cheap and downright dirty exploitation melodrama filled with cardboard characters, emotionally manipulative situations and laughable attempts at social commentary. But it's also an extremely effective and entertaining tool. Sharon Stone is a conservative reporter who hates them dastardly illegals, but soon sees the error of her ways when her brother goes missing and she must infiltrate their world to find him. She learns a lot about herself, and compassion and empathy for their plight, but not without a bit of sleazy sex and gory gunplay, natch. — ***Louis Fowler***

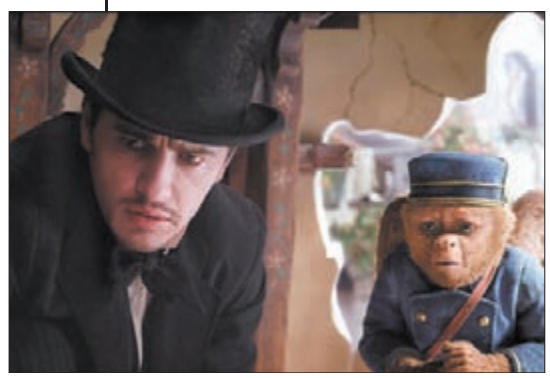
Film

If it only had a heart

Oz the Great and Powerful (PG)

By MaryAnn Johanson

What I keep hearing in my head is: *Escape from Oz*. I had no trouble keeping the title straight before I saw the film. But apparently the mere act of watching — and it was pretty mere — has infected me with a desire to be somewhere else.



Oh, James Franco. Even you're confused about how you ended up playing this role.

Oz the Great and Powerful? More like *The Bland and the Mediocre*. Turns out the man behind the curtain is even smaller and less mighty than Dorothy had discovered in the Emerald City. Turns out the tale of how the man became the man behind the curtain is a static, perfunctory one, a same-old "you're better than you think you are" cliché. Perhaps it will amuse or surprise very small children, unless they, too, have seen the 1939 *Wizard of Oz*, which this oddly attempts to imitate rather than complement.

Kansas circus magician Oscar Diggs gets swept into the land of Oz, where he acquires a collection of oddball sidekicks and has to defeat an evil witch. The script is suffering from a bad case of fan-fiction-itis, or the itch to tell the audience things we never realized until right now that we never really needed to know.

Lest you were under the impression that this is based on something L. Frank Baum had written, it isn't. And screenwriters Mitchell Kapner and David Lindsay-Abaire appear to have little to add that would expand the world of the World War II-era film beyond a bizarre notion that a man with no actual magical ability at all — that would be Oscar Diggs — could be more powerful than the two genuine witches who enlist him to fight their wicked sister witch, who rules Oz cruelly.

If only Oscar were a more complicated or conflicted man! Even the usually intriguing James Franco flounders while trying to inject some life into the flimsiest sort of stereotype of a con man.

The film only truly comes alive in a pair of moments that echo each other, in which Oscar is forced to face the ineffectiveness of his own flim-flammery. Then it's back to his by-the-numbers "transformation" into a man who's infinitesimally better than he was before.

It's a measure of how relentlessly flat the film is emotionally that Franco's performance is probably exactly what director Sam Raimi was looking for. Because it's hard to see that this was intended as a story so much as an advertisement for the inevitable *Oz the Great and Powerful* ride at Disney World.

The ride's gonna be amazing! There'll be a hot-air balloon ride down a waterfall and a steampunk picture show! You'll enter down the yellow-brick road, of course, and you will be greeted by a flying monkey. It looks like it'll be fun. A Method depiction of a con man's crisis of self-confidence would distract from that.

Michelle Williams' good witch Glinda and Rachel Weisz's bad witch Evanora are similarly perfectly pitched — calculated, even — to sell us on the unchallenging awesomeness of that theme-park experience. (Alas, Mila Kunis as witch Theodora is screechingly one-note, and the one actively awful aspect of the movie.)

That tornado wormhole that zips Oscar to Oz? It must have also shot the blast of superfast wind that overinflated a very simple story and blew it up into a bloated CGI cartoon. As a momentary diversion, it diverts momentarily. But it is only a shadow of the film it's riffing on.

— ***scene@csindy.com***

RatingsWrapUp

	Indy	Hollywood Reporter	Rotten Tomatoes	Variety
Amour (PG-13)	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant
A Good Day to Die Hard (R)	Enjoy	Enjoy	Enjoy	NOT REVIEWED
Jack the Giant Slayer (PG-13)	Enjoy	NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG)	Wait for DVD	Enjoy	Enjoy	Wait for DVD
Side Effects (R)	Brilliant	Wait for DVD	Brilliant	Brilliant

KEY: Brilliant · Enjoy · Wait for DVD · Lame

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AudioFile

Run for the boarders

Current Swell catch a wave and tour all over the world

By Chris Parker

CAPSULE
Current Swell, with Water Bear, Mark's Midnight Carnival Show
Friday, March 8, 8 p.m. door
Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave.
Tickets: $8, all-ages; blacksheeprocks.com, 227-7625.

Canadian quartet Current Swell are surfer/snowboarder types who pretty much fell into music by mistake. So it's that much sweeter they won Vancouver's 2011 PEAK Performance Project, a kind of battle of the bands with a $100,000 prize.

Shane Deringer Photography

Swollen members: 'It isn't our style to compete.'

The band started in Dave Lang's Vancouver Island, B.C. living room, where fellow guitarist/school chum Scott Stanton crashed on vacation and wouldn't leave.

"We were prairie boys and we just kind of got into surfing," recalls Lang. "We were always heavily into skateboarding and snowboarding. It was like bro-ing it out with each other and playing guitar together. He just abandoned his plane ticket home."

The crashing continued for a full six weeks ("eventually we had to kick him off the couch"), but the music and friendship carried on.

Current Swell's earliest musical forays mixed country-folk and surf/reggae, a combination that found a rabid audience among their 'boarding compatriots. While they didn't initially pursue a music career, they soon embraced the DIY ethos and found a willing audience within the jam circuit.

Still, their sound's not so easily confined. The band's fourth album, 2011's *Long Time Ago*, turned up the amps on tracks like the Neil Young-ish, "Honest Man," tightened their mix of roots and pop on tracks like the pretty banjo-driven devotional "For the Land," and explored the darker side on "Brad's Song," about an outspoken, whiskey-drinking wheelchair-bound friend.

"A lot of our more popular songs are on the lighter side," Lang admits. "['Brad's Song'] has a more somber feel and it's about a friend of mine that passed away. It was the first time I was able to write about something like that. I wouldn't write about something like that unless I knew it. So it's awesome to kind of be growing with age and your songwriting kind of following you."

There's an unvarnished plainspoken charm to Current Swell's sound, which is also reflected in the musicians' genial, unassuming natures. So it's not so surprising why they balked at the idea of entering the radio station-sponsored PEAK Performance Project until their manager finally convinced them to do it.

"We're like, fuck no. It isn't our style to compete. Plus you really put yourself out there and set yourself up to be crushed if they don't pick you to be in the top 20," says Lang.

Their manager successfully appealed to their business side — "we're cash poor and a pile of money would really help" — and they ultimately won the several month-long competition.

They received the news at the final show of their CD release tour for *Long Time Ago*, after which good tidings just kept coming. Nettwerk, one of Canada's biggest labels, signed them a couple months later, re-released the album and proceeded to send them around the world in support of it for the past year. In June they return home to start work on the follow-up.

Ultimately, they feel they've paid enough dues to justify their recent fortune.

"We've definitely been the broke band for a long time," figures Lang. "Even when we go on tour now we split one hotel room for the four of us."

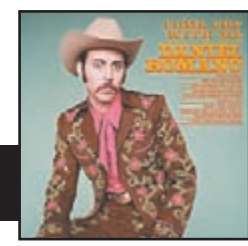
As to what the future holds, Lang admits he's no soothsayer. "It's fun because there are no rules in music," he says. "You can try whatever you want."

— scene@csindy.com

SoundAdvice

Johnny Marr
The Messenger
Sire Records
File next to: Television, Soundtrack of Our Lives

Some Smiths fans are reticent to forgive Johnny Marr for waiting 20 years to make a proper solo album. A few go so far as to call *The Messenger* an '80s throwback, lost in a time warp of Morrissey-style croons and sparkly guitars. If only all time-traps sounded this good. Besides, Marr makes this a 21st-century product by fortifying his Smiths-like riffs with lessons of '90s and '00s guitar bands, including his work as second guitarist to Isaac Brock in Modest Mouse. Sure, the lyrics in a few songs like "Upstarts" can get a little silly, but no more than those of Tom Verlaine or Jim Carroll. In his favor, Marr's voice is more than adequate, at times sounding almost better than Morrissey's, if that sacrilege can be permitted. Each of the dozen songs on this album is pregnant with riff and portent, making this a contender for one of 2013's best releases. ***— Loring Wirbel***



Daniel Romano
Come Cry With Me
New West Records
File next to: Blue Rodeo, Patsy Cline

It's a story often told and seldom true, that of the young artist who conjures up the ghost of a bygone era so flawlessly that it's downright eerie. Except that, in Daniel Romano's case, the story actually is true. Cover photo notwithstanding, the 27-year-old refugee from multi-hyphenated Canadian band Attack in Black is no indie dilettante playing the role of rhinestone cowboy with varying degrees of irony. The sublime harmonies, poignant lyrics and tremolo twang of "He Lets Her Memory Go (Wild)" are as good as you'll find from any new country artist, while the live acoustic "A New Love (Can Be Found)" takes a more subtle path to unsuspecting heartstrings. Not all of *Come Cry With Me* is as immediately impressive — it's kind of hard to imagine how a full album could be — but every bit of it is well worth hearing. ***— Bill Forman***

Pissed Jeans
Honeys
SubPop
File next to: Off!, Black Flag, Fucked Up

It's interesting to track the similar trajectories of the two hardcore bands with the most quasi-profane names in the industry: Pissed Jeans and Fucked Up. Both started life as high-speed growlers, reviving an early '80s sweat-filled bluster. Both have tried to evolve their sounds to include unusual time signatures and other tricks to transcend their roots. In 2011, FU released a sprawling conceptual punk opera, *David Comes to Life*, and managed to make it work. Pissed Jeans are more modest in their aims, but still go for lyrical spoken word as well as unexpected instrumentation in songs like "Cafeteria Food" and "You're Different (in Person)." *Honeys* is their best release to date. And while hardcore punk can be just as limited a genre as death metal, PJ and FU are clearly the two bands best positioned to break the boundaries of their genre with something completely new. ***— Loring Wirbel***

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AudioFile

From Maddow to *Manifestra*

Erin McKeown weaves a pattern between political and personal

By Kirsten Akens

Merri Cyr

Music, says McKeown, 'lives in a space that kind of defies precise articulation, that is still very real.'

When working on her new album *Manifestra*, Erin McKeown had a "really fucking awesome" experience — getting to write "Baghdad to the Bayou," with MSNBC's Rachel Maddow.

The background? McKeown and Get Down Stay Down frontwoman Thao Nguyen were on tour together when they ran into *This American Life* host Ira Glass and his partner in a diner in Anchorage, Alaska. ("Totally crazy," she says.) The four had breakfast, and McKeown says she and Glass stayed in touch.

Later, as Glass was working on a post-Deepwater Horizon oil spill benefit for the World Wildlife Foundation, he thought of the 35-year-old singer-songwriter as the perfect person to match up with someone else he'd already roped into the project — Maddow.

CAPSULE

Erin McKeown

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The two women were longtime friends, having met during Maddow's days as a local radio DJ in McKeown's western Massachusetts hometown, so agreeing to write a song together for it was easy.

Actually composing it was less easy.

"The only way we could do it was by text," McKeown says. "We couldn't get on the phone, and e-mail was too hard 'cause she was traveling a bunch and so we texted back and forth. ... I love limitations in writing songs. The fewer tools I have, the better."

McKeown would text Maddow, ask where she was that day, what were some of the images she was seeing. "I basically took her travels, and they formed this sort of road map for that song. And then it [became] a kind of kitchen sink of here's this happening and this happening, all over the world, and what unites all of it ... is this collective desire for truth."

Which, McKeown says is the same thing Maddow does on her show.

"She really just wants people to tell the truth and she has different ways of getting people to tell the truth. Sometimes with humor, sometimes with just outstanding academic rhetoric. But she's after that type of transparency and truth — it's like, if you're evil, just say you're evil," she says, laughing.

"Baghdad to the Bayou" isn't the only song on *Manifestra*, her seventh studio album, that McKeown uses to get people to push boundaries. "Histories" starts off talking about family, and how we're each raised a certain way, with certain values. As we age, we start to question that background and consider new ways of doing things.

"In my cells I carry how they raised me," McKeown sings, "but every day I have to choose to do something different."

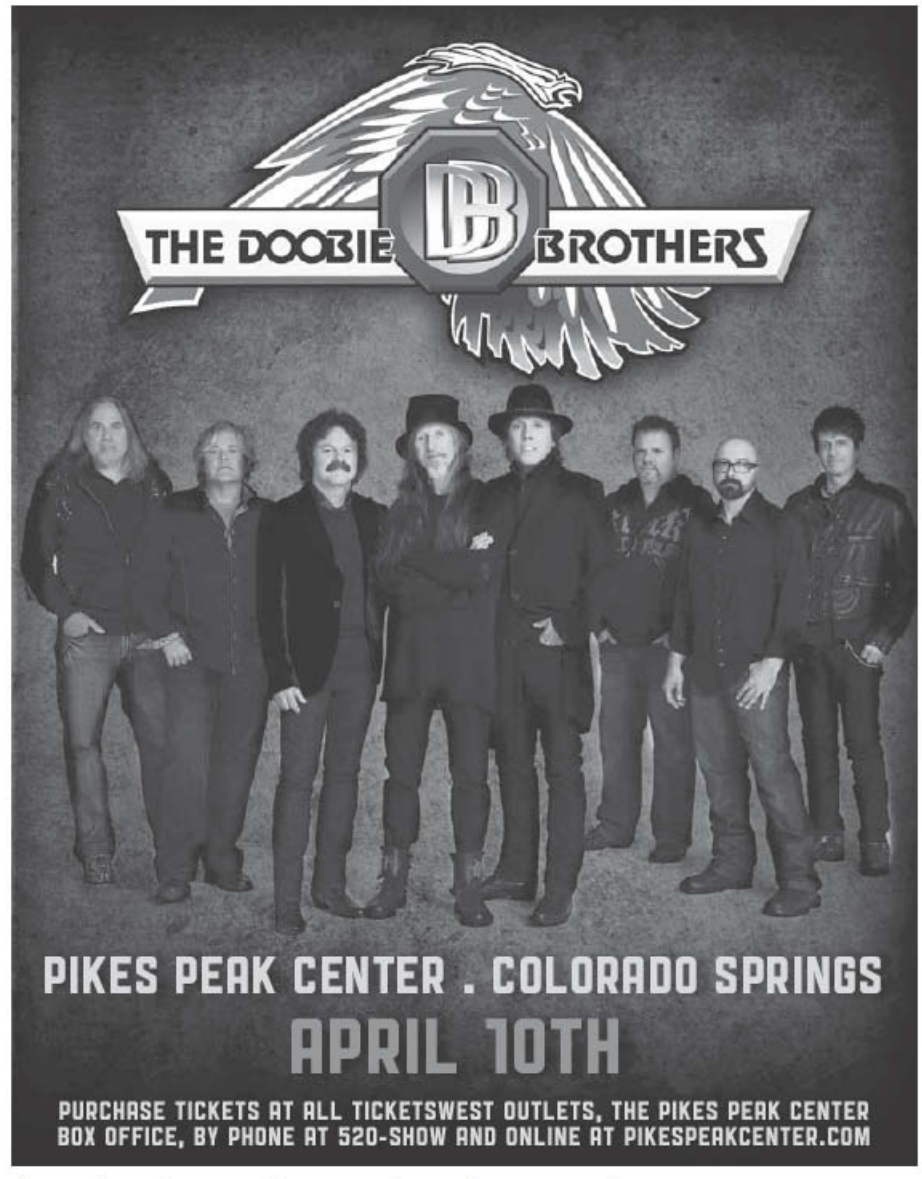
That song, she explains, ultimately asks how do we create community and how do we make change on a larger level.

McKeown admits fully to using the soapbox she has to address issues she's passionate about. And she recognizes a certain power in the format that comes easy to her.

"[Music] lives in a space that kind of defies precise articulation, that is still very real and very visceral. And in some ways you might not be able to describe what a great song makes you feel like or makes you want to do, but it's doing something.

"Applying music ... to political process, is a really useful tool when it's done well because it isn't gonna bang you over the head with something. And it's not gonna clearly tell you one way or the other how to think. It's gonna appeal on a more subtle, cellular level."

— kakens@csindy.com


THE DOOBIE BROTHERS
PIKES PEAK CENTER . COLORADO SPRINGS
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PURCHASE TICKETS AT ALL TICKETSWEST OUTLETS, THE PIKES PEAK CENTER BOX OFFICE, BY PHONE AT 520-SHOW AND ONLINE AT PIKESPEAKCENTER.COM

High art in low places

Multimedia maverick Terry Allen makes his long-awaited return to recording

By Bill Forman

It's fitting that Terry Allen's e-mail address starts with the word "irony" and his phone number ends in "666." This, after all, is the songwriter whose subjects include a car-jacking Jesus ("The lord he moves in mysterious ways / And tonight, my son, he gonna use your car") and a truckload of modern art burning on the highway ("The smoke could be seen for miles all around / But nobody knows what it means").

'The museum in Lubbock was full of farm implements. But you did have that vast space to kind of fill up your boredom with your imagination.'

The Texas-reared son of a pro baseball player and a barrelhouse pianist, Allen is a renowned storyteller whose songs are sometimes hilarious, often haunting, always brilliant. He's also an accomplished visual artist who's been awarded National Endowment for the Arts and Guggenheim fellowships; his paintings and sculptures can be found everywhere from the Museum of Modern Art to Denver International Airport. (Just look for the cast-bronze gargoyles perched in open suitcases.) And if all that's not enough, he also collaborates with his wife Jo Harvey Allen, as well as friends like David Byrne and Joe Ely, on large-scale theatrical and multimedia works.

While much of the above has kept Allen from releasing a proper studio album since the waning days of the Clinton administration, the Santa Fe-based artist put things right last month with *Bottom of the World*, a powerful and moving showcase for his patented combination of Texas twang and art-school eccentricity. The album's emotional range extends from the wistful "Do They Dream of Hell in Heaven" to starker fare like "The Gift," about a real-life Wall Street scion who hung himself with a dog leash while his 2-year-old slept in the next room. This spring, he'll also be releasing a limited-edition box set containing one art print for each of its 11 songs.

Allen took time out last week to talk about all that and more.

CAPSULE

***eTown* live radio show taping with Terry Allen, Solas**

Sunday, March 10, 7 p.m.

eTown Hall, 1535 Spruce St., Boulder

Tickets: $21, all-ages; etown.org, 303/443-8696.

***Indy:* I wanted to start by asking at what point in life you realized that you didn't have to limit yourself to music, or visual art, or theater — that you could do all of those things.**

Terry Allen: It was probably in the mid-'60s when I was living in L.A. and going to the Chouinard Art Institute. I had a band, and friends of mine had a house where whoever owned it had built a small homemade theater in the basement. So we used it to perform every week. We'd take turns writing a piece, doing the sets, doing the music, acting in it.

Everything was wide open. An art store wasn't any more significant for art supplies than a junk store, or a hardware store, or a garbage dump. I think I left that period just thinking everything was possible.

***Indy:* Did you imagine that kind of collaboration and diversity when you were growing up in Lubbock?**

TA: Are you KIDDING?!

***Indy:* No, I'm just prompting you, really.**

TA: [Laughs.] No, there wasn't. I mean, the museum in Lubbock was full of farm implements. But you did have that vast space, you know, to kind of fill up your boredom with your imagination.

***Indy:* There's also a vast amount of space on the new album. Even though you have pedal steel and keyboards, it still sounds kind of "unplugged" without any bass, drums or electric guitar. What made you decide to forego those?**

TA: I think the songs, you know? I wanted to do something that had a lot of space in it, and those songs just felt that way. I didn't HEAR any drums, and I didn't hear any bass or percussion. The only percussion I really used was a block of wood — we put a jack in it, amped it, and I stomped my foot. You can hear it on "Bottom of the World" and "Hold on to the House."

***Indy:* So you've continued working with Lloyd Maines, whose playing on this album makes it easy to see why. And then you've got a 50-plus-year marriage, which is something I think only you and my parents have managed to accomplish.**

TA: [Laughs.] Yeah, it's stunning how long two people can misunderstand each other.

***Indy:* So what about that? I take it loyalty must be something you really value.**

TA: Well, yeah, I do value that. Lloyd is probably the equivalent of an uncle to my kids. They've grown up with him, and now they've played music with him. There's a group of people from Lubbock who kind of found each other, and lost each other, and refound each other. And I feel very close to those people, almost like a family, because we've been through so many different experiences.

And I certainly feel that way about my wife, of course, because we've worked together in every conceivable way since we first got married.

***Indy:* I understand that, in the limited-edition set, you'll have a print for "Queenie's Song" with sheet music that you shot a bullet hole in. I'm wondering how hard it was to write about something like that, and if your darkest songs have a therapeutic quality for you.**

TA: It was a funny situation, because this dog had been missing for quite a while, and we just kind of resigned ourselves to the fact that she had either been stolen or something had happened to her. And when we found her under this tree in a bunch of brush we have on our land, Guy Clark was here. And I literally came in and said, "Guy, some son of a bitch shot my dog." And he said, "Well, let's write a song about it."

***Indy:* That's quick.**

TA: Well, we didn't immediately sit down and do it, but we started thinking about that. And meanwhile, I buried the dog and whatever. But we started just kind of messing around with [the song]. And so, you know, it was therapeutic in that way.

But I never had a dog shot before, and I've always thought that anyone that did that should be shot themselves. Especially THIS little dog, which was kind of the sweetest little dog you could imagine.

***Indy:* What breed?**

TA: It was a heeler. But anyway, I don't think a lot in terms of therapy, you know, or how to make myself not depressed or happy or whatever. I've found out that some days I can be just, you know, in a great good humor and write the most cold-blooded song. Or vice versa, just really be lowdown and something comes that's just outrageously hilarious to me. They come when they come, you know?

***Indy:* For me, the other most moving song on the record is the one about Bernard Madoff's son. It's also the only song of yours I know that's tied to a contemporary real-life tragedy. As you were writing it, did you wrestle with the idea that his family members would likely hear it one day?**

TA: No, I didn't, because it's such a tragedy, and I have a couple of friends who were directly affected by that. One of them, who's bipolar, is a really wonderful musician, but had some real issues. And so his father had given Madoff all this money to set up trusts for his kid, and all that money was lost.

But as far as the family, I don't see how a song like that could possibly compete with the agony that the news has presented. I think it's just a really sad story.

***Indy:* Rich folks and religion have shown up in your songs more than a few times. At this point in life, would you say you have more understanding for people who end up adhering to those kinds of values?**

TA: Oh, you know, I would hope so. I mean, I don't know about adhering to those values, but I think the older you get, the more aware you are that we're all facing demons. We all face issues and problems, and make mistakes, and screw each other over, and whatever. We're all pretty much in the same bag.

— bill@csindy.com

REVERB

BY BILL FORMAN

From CU-Boulder's student-run **KVCU** to Pueblo's Christian contemporary **KTPL**, there are nearly a hundred radio stations you can theoretically pick up in Colorado Springs.

Dance, sucker: Your car radio just got funkier.

Of course, "theoretically" is the operative word here, since your actual listening mileage may vary due to everything from shifting cloud cover to the quality of your car stereo. (Mine's got a built-in cassette player, so you can be sure it's state-of-the-art!)

But when it comes to decent music stations, it's still pretty hard to fill up a dozen presets here. So a couple of weeks ago, it came as a shock to me — as well as to the music-fanatic husband of another editorial staffer here — when we independently found our local airwaves graced by around-the-clock soul, funk and R&B.

Turns out we were tuning in to **KJHM**, a station transmitting straight out of Strasburg (pop. 1,402), some 40 miles east of Denver. Billed as **"The New Jammin' 101.5,"** it plays everything from **George Clinton & Parliament**'s '70s funk anthem "Flash Light" to **Al B Sure**'s 1988 New Jack Swing track "Nite and Day" (with a handful of current hits, like **Miguel**'s "Adorn," thrown in for good measure).

After a week of listening, I called the station to find out how it had suddenly infiltrated Colorado Springs.

"I think I've just got it dialed in to where it works really well now," says director of engineering **Daniel Hyatt**, who joined the station last summer, around the time it changed to its current format. "We had an antenna that got hit by lightning, so that was kind of toasted. It was operating at the correct power, but it really wasn't working right, so we replaced that. And, you know, we've also had power problems, and all kinds of crazy stuff with our transmitter, which is out in the middle of nowhere."

'What good is it if you have a playlist that comes out of L.A. and is on a hundred other stations?'

Hyatt also spent a lot of time tweaking the station's audio output. "When you do that, it clears up all kinds of junk," he says. "There's distortion and just really weird things that go on inside the signal that the listener doesn't necessarily hear, but it really prohibits radios from picking it up."

Of course, none of this would much matter if KJHM were just another cookie-cutter corporate pawn polluting the airwaves. Although the station isn't independent, parent company **Max Media** is pretty small by today's radio standards. Suffice it to say that, with 42 radio stations, Max Media won't be costing the 850-station **Clear Channel** any sleepless nights.

Likewise, while the new format was devised by an L.A.-based consultant, Hyatt says music selections are all made in-house, based on a combination of requests and staff suggestions: "I mean, I'm the engineer, and usually the engineer doesn't have anything to do with programming. But they even listen to *my* suggestions."

KJHM's programming approach — along with its hosting of events ranging from benefits for the Aurora shooting victims to an upcoming "Love Affair" concert with **Johnny Gill** and **Confunkshun** — is a kind of throwback to radio's more community-focused origins.

"What good is it if you have a playlist that comes out of L.A. and is on a hundred other stations?" asks Hyatt. "And then you've got one guy in San Francisco who's voice-tracking all those stations. I've actually heard stations in Denver that I *know* are voice-tracked out of L.A. or San Francisco, and the guy will come on the mic with, 'Man, it's a great morning in the Mile High City and a beautiful day in store for us.' And I'm looking out the window, and there's a blizzard outside. It's like, what are you talking about? And you know, that's not fair to the listener."

Meanwhile, for Colorado Springs music fans determined to "listen local," **KILO 94.3** is marking its 35th anniversary with a flurry of special events and promotions. The "pure rock" ratings giant, whose parent company owns just a handful of stations, will be offering 94-cent-per-gallon gas at local 7-Elevens at least one day a month throughout 2013, giving away a "tricked-out car" from its birth year 1978, and hosting a free **P.O.D.** acoustic concert at **Rawkus** on March 24. Although tickets to the latter were gone in a flash, you can still tune in to the station for ticket giveaways.

And finally, if only to give this column its minimum weekly requirement of bold type, allow me to recommend ***What's Left Fanzine***'s third anniversary concert ("10 bands, 10 issues, 10 bucks") at **Zodiac** this Friday. In addition to headliner **DJ Abilities** — a Minneapolis turntablist who records for the revered **Rhymesayers** label — there'll be sets by **Sadistik, Maulskull, Bullhead*ded,** the **War Parts, Ibe Hustles, Disguise the Spy, A Black Day, Murder Hat** and **Flodignatic**.

Send news, photos and music to reverb@csindy.com; follow our updates at tinyurl.com/indyreverb.

PlayingAround

LIVE MUSIC: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 12

Wednesday 03/06

Club Q, *Open Mic Night,* 10 p.m.
Frankie's, *Open Mic (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Front Range Barbeque, *Miss Tess & The Talkbacks (jazz),* 8 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Crystal and the Curious (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Brian Parton & Harriett Landrum (dance),* 7 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Open Mic Night (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5, free for jammers.
Park East, *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Rawbert & I (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Stargazers, *R&R Military & Veterans Monthly Music Jam (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Zodiac, *Dead Hand Project, Suspension IX, Critical Mass Theory* (rock/pop), 8 p.m., $10.

Thursday 03/07

Adam's, *Eric Earley (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Stolen Idol Production presents Open Mic (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Benny's, *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band,* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *17 Ents Presents: Earmic, Gritty Musick, Etc & Big Cheez (hip-hop),* 8 p.m., $5.
Jack Quinn's, *Brian Clancy (world),* 7:30 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Craig Walter (rock/pop),* 6:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *The Bar Stars (dance),* 8 p.m.
Motif, *Mike Nelson Duo (acoustic),* 7:15 p.m.
Park East, *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Rico's, *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Wyatt's, *Stan Campbell (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.

Friday 03/08

Adam's, *Eric Earley (acoustic),* 9 a.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Winter Nacht (metal),* 9 p.m.
Benny's, *Big Sky (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Black Forest Community Center, *Justin Roth (acoustic),* 7 p.m., $4-$7.
Black Sheep, *Current Swell (indie),* 8 p.m., $8.
Broadmoor Academy of Music, *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Cleats, *Fishtank Piranhas (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Suga' Bear & the Show Time Band (R&B),* 8 p.m.
Cucuru, *Rico Southee (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Front Range Barbeque, *Grant Sabin & Scott McDougall (blues),* 8 p.m.
Fujiyama, *Barbara Ernst/Mistura Bela (world),* 7 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *DJ Rob G (dance),* 9 p.m.
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, *Austin Young and No Difference (blues),* 8:30 p.m.
Kasey's, *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B),* 9 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Acme Bluegrass Band (bluegrass),* 6:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Dack Janiels (dance),* 9 p.m.

VENUE DIRECTORY

Adam's Mountain Café, 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430
Ancient Mariner, 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503
Benny's Restaurant & Lounge, 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309
Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Road, 528-6119
Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave., 227-7625
Broadmoor Academy of Music, 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979
Carey-On Saloon, 6829 Space Village Ave., 591-0300
Cleats Sports Bar & Grill, 6624 Delmonico Drive, 548-8267
Club Q, 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429
Copperhead Road, 3330 N. Academy Blvd., 596-9151
Crystola Roadhouse, 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879
Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900
Frankie's Bar & Grill, 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881
Fratelli Ristorante Italiano, 124 N. Nevada Ave., 575-9571
Front Range Barbeque, 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596
Fujiyama, 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167
Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, 2817 N. Nevada Ave., 344-9593
Kasey's Bar & Grill, 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128
Lounge in the Village, 3440 W. Carefree Circle, 550-9721
Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
McGinty's Wood Oven Pub, 11115 W. U.S. Hwy. 24, Divide, 686-7703
Meadow Muffins, 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583

Got a live music event readers should know about? Send us the band/musician, where they're playing and when (day, date and time), how much it will cost and a contact phone number — by Wednesday

MoodSwings, *The Flipsides (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
Motif, *Colin McAllister Jazz Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
The Perk Downtown, *BRAS Open Stage (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $4-$7.
Rawkus, *Digga, Ston3, Harbinger (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Rico's, *The Storys (folk),* 7:30 p.m.
The Sky Box Lounge, *Jeff "Fitty" Smith (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Stargazers, *Tony Exum Jr. (blues),* 8 p.m., $15-$20.
Townhouse, *Rock Garden (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *El Toro de la Muerte, Instant Empire, I Sank Molly Brown (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Ute Inn, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 8 p.m.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
Venue 515, *Adam & Stilwagen (blues),* 7:30 p.m., $5.
Wooglin's Deli & Café, *Second Friday at Wooglin's (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Wyatt's, *Tyler Halsey (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Zodiac, *What's Left Third Anniversary Show, feat. DJ Abilities, Sadistik, Murder Hat (rock/pop),* 5 p.m., $10.

Saturday 03/09

Ancient Mariner, *The Mighty High (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Benny's, *VCR Trio (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Black Sheep, *The Dirty Heads, Shiny Toy Guns, Midi Matilda (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $25.
Carey-On Saloon, *Southern Belle Band (country),* 9 p.m.
Cleats, *Fishtank Piranhas (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Copperhead Road, *Arch Hooks (R&B),* 9:30 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Kris Lager Band (blues),* 8 p.m.
Cucuru, *BJ Estares (blues),* 8 p.m.
Frankie's, *Blue Dog Saints (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Fratelli, *Brian Parton (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Fujiyama, *DJ Ron Perry (jazz),* 6 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *Ceol Ceili (world),* 2 p.m., *Tribe (world),* 10 p.m.
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, *Inman Brothers (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Lounge in the Village, *West Side Rhythm Kings (blues),* 8 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *GOYA (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Shane Groothof (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
Motif, *Steve Langemo Jazz Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
Oakley's, *D Day Invasion (blues),* 8 p.m.
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., *Andy Clifton (rock/pop),* 7 p.m.
Rawkus, *DJ Lank, Tink-Fu, Trajikk, Fury (dance),* 8 p.m., $10-$15.
The Sky Box Lounge, *The Reid Holmes Invitational "Live Music Jam" (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Stargazers, *Satisfaction: Tribute to the Rolling Stones (rock/pop),* 8 p.m., $15-$20.

BigGigs

Salvador Santana, son of Carlos, will bring his rap-influenced rock to the Black Sheep Sunday.

The Dirty Heads, Shiny Toy Guns, Black Sheep, March 9 • **Adrian Legg,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 10 • **Salvador Santana,** Black Sheep, March 10 • **Swingin Utters,** Black Sheep, March 11 • **Otherwise,** Black Sheep, March 13 • **Curtis Salgado,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, March 15 • **Altan,** Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, March 16 • **Vagabond Opera,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 16 • **Clutch,** Black Sheep, March 18 • **Paper Bird,** Black Sheep, March 19 • **Tech N9ne,** Black Sheep, March 20, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 22 • **Peelander-Z,** Black Sheep, March 21 • **Firefall,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 22 • **Imagine Dragons,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 23, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 16 • **Candye Kane,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, March 23 • **In This Moment,** Black Sheep, March 25 • **P.O.D. Unplugged,** Rawkus, March 25 • **The Pinstripes,** Black Sheep, March 27 • **Air Dubai,** Black Sheep, March 28 • **Erykah Badu,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 30 • **Adrenaline Mob,** Black Sheep, April 1 • **Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, Joe Walsh,** Pepsi Center, Denver, April 2 • **Minus the Bear,** Black Sheep, April 2 • **Alt-J,** Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 3 • **The Elders,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 6 • **Bad Religion,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 10 • **The Doobie Brothers,** Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Moses Jones,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 10 • **Chris Cagle,** Cowboys, April 11 • **Bullet for My Valentine,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 12 • **Jimmy Thackery & the Drivers,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 12 • **Big Bill Morganfield,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 13 • **Peter Yarrow,** Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, April 13 • **Colin Hay,** Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Palmer Lake, April 20 • **The Motet, Ozomatli,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 20 • **Whiskey Fingers,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 3 • **Chris Duarte Group,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 4 • **Paramore,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 7 • **John Prine,** Pikes Peak Center, May 8 • **Stu Hamm,** Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 11 • **Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley,** Comfort Dental Amphitheatre, Englewood, May 18 • **Bassnectar,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 31-June 1 • **Buddy Whittington with the Atomic Fireballs,** Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 31 • **Fleetwood Mac,** Pepsi Center, Denver, June 1 • **Gina Sicilia,** Venue 515, Manitou Springs, June 1 • **Taylor Swift,** Pepsi Center, Denver, June 2 • **The xx,** Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, June 3 • **Sting,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 5 • **Umphrey's McGee, Dr. Dog,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 7 • **Celtic Woman,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 9 • **DeVotchKa, with the Colorado Symphony, Amanda Palmer,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 14 • **Tim McGraw,** Comfort Dental Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 15 • **Rodrigo y Gabriela, with the Colorado Symphony,** Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, July 28 •

Sunshine Studios, *Kink Ador, Magenta Incident, Maddy Hershiser (rock/pop),* 6:30 p.m., $10.
Townhouse, *Neighborhood Bully (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Antique Scream, Machine, Melting Temple (metal),* 9 p.m., $5.
Union Station, *Some People's Kids (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
Zodiac, *We Are Not Rembrandt III, feat. Chauncy Crandall, Moonhoney, Andrea Stone, Bryan Ostrow (rock/pop),* 6 p.m., $5.

Sunday 03/10

Black Sheep, *Salvador Santana, Charlie Milo Trio (rock/pop),* 8 p.m., $12.
Jack Quinn's, *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.
McGinty's, *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.
Stargazers, *Adrian Legg (acoustic),* 7 p.m., $15-$20.
Sunshine Studios, *Still the Sky's Limit, Benny Marchant, December Downfall (rock/pop),* 6:30 p.m., $8.
Zodiac, *Blue Lotus, Harriet Landrum, Shae, Jo-Lynn (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.

Monday 03/11

Black Sheep, *Swingin Utters, Wild Roses (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $12.
Zodiac, *Open Mic hosted by Andrea Stone,* 7 p.m.

Tuesday 03/12

Adam's, *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic),* 6 p.m.
Benny's, *Sweet T's Rude Blues Jam (blues),* 7 p.m.
Thirsty's, *Open Mic and Jam Nite with Ronnie Policy and the West Side Allstars (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Townhouse, *Jam Night, with Tim Costello (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Kevin Seconds, Hudson Grace, Fare Thee Well (indie),* 9 p.m., $5.
Zodiac, *Goth Nite with DJ Raid (dance),* 9 p.m.

MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge, 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
Motif, 2432 Cucharras St., 635-5635
Oakley's Café & Bistro at Sundance Mountain Lodge, 1865 Woodmoor Drive, Monument, 481-6000
Park East Restaurant, 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655
The Perk Downtown, 14 S. Tejon St., 635-1600
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Drive, 208-4098
Rawkus, 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000
Rico's Café and Wine Bar, 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549
The Sky Box Lounge, 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815
Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill, 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222
SouthSide Johnny's, 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487
Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200
Sunshine Studios, 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921
Thirsty's Tavern, 2028 Sheldon Ave., 444-8515
Townhouse Lounge, 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085
Triple Nickel Tavern, 26 S. Wahsatch Ave., 477-9555
Union Station, 2419 N. Union Blvd., 227-7168
Ute Inn, 204 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 687-1465
V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599
Venue 515, 515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861
Wooglin's Deli & Café, 823 N. Tejon St., 578-9443
Wyatt's Pub & Grill, 806 Village Center Drive, 598-4100
Zodiac, 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059

at noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events on a monthly basis, they won't run. Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.

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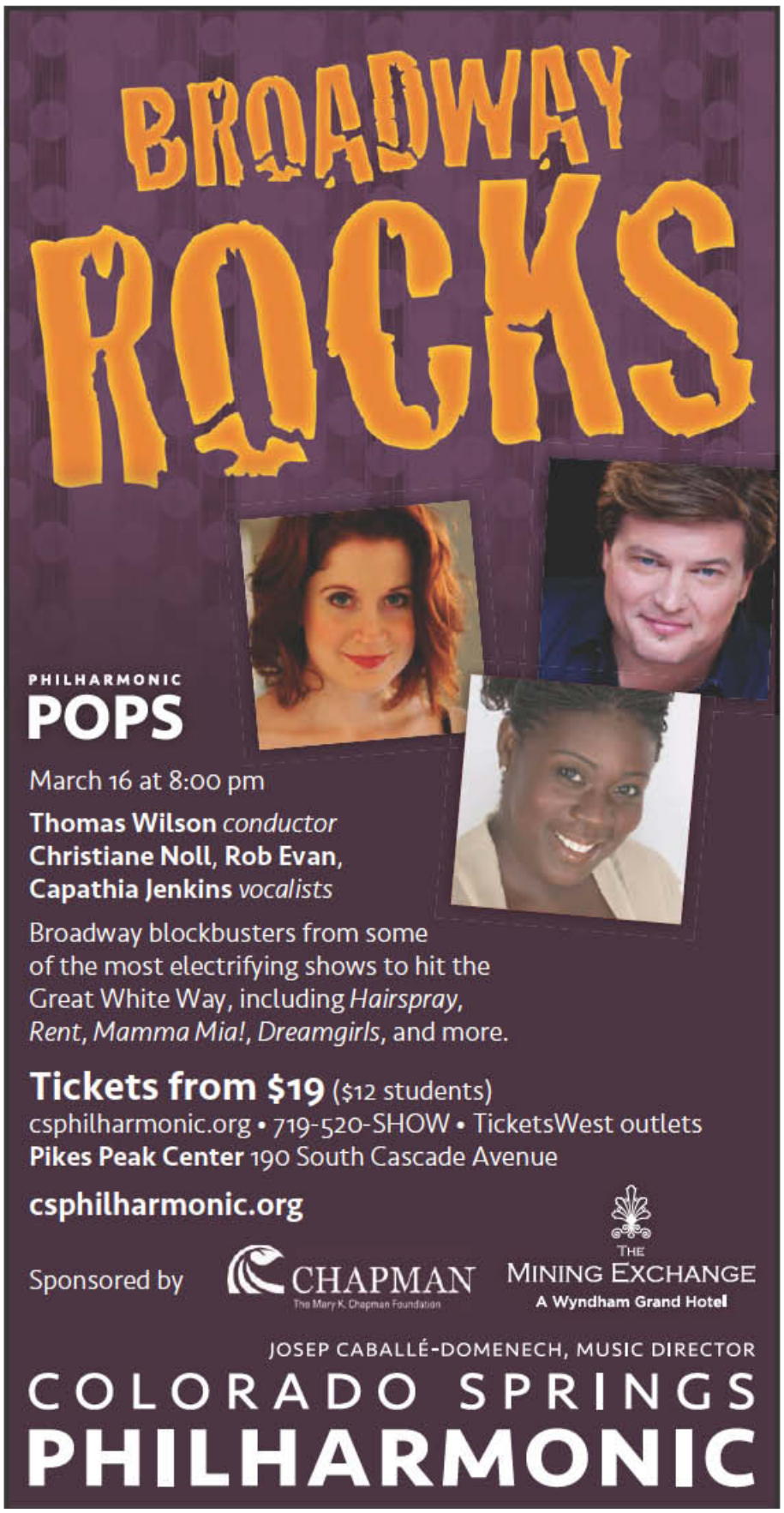
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Listings

Indicates our recommendations for this week.

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

PICK **Sangre de Cristo Arts Center,** 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org. *Gene Diodato*, held in Sangre's Foyer galleries, a series of plein air paintings. Through April 20. *Klaus Anselm*, a series of works by this Pueblo artist who hails from Germany and worked as a doctor before turning to weaving. Through April 20. *Representing the West Exhibition and Sale*, a national juried exhibition and sale of traditional Western art (pictured). Through April 6. *Women Who Run with the Wood*, an exhibition of wood-fired ceramics created by Vicky Hansen, Tracy Hartman-Jensen, and Deborah Hager. Through March 30.

ArtEvents

Big Picture Discussion Group, join others to talk about art and spirituality. Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, tinyurl.com/cs6lo26.

Cheyenne Mountain School District 12 Art Exhibit, an award ceremony honoring the K-12 student artists of the district's 27th annual exhibition. Tues., March 12, 6:30 p.m. Cheyenne Mountain High School, 1200 Cresta Road, 475-6110.

ChitChat: "Physics of Color and Crêpes! Crêpes! Crêpes!" an evening of food and drink, hands-on learning and a whole lot of lively conversation with featured speakers Dr. Tom Christensen, UCCS' physics department, and Turu Marx-Eurich, co-owner of Coquette Bistro & Bakery. Wed., March 6, 6:30 p.m. GOCA 121, 121 S. Tejon St., #100, 255-3504, uccs.edu/goca/TALK/ChitChat-2013.html.

Clay Art Classes, a variety of classes on topics like paper-clay, raku, handbuilding and wheel throwing. Cup and Bowl Gallery, 116 Midway Ave., Pueblo, 719/404-3469, cupandbowl.org.

Downtown Skill Share, an all-ages open art session featuring random experimentations and creations with Concrete Couch. An open-mic music jam follows. Thursdays, 4 p.m.; through May 30. Free. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, concretecouch.org.

Fab Lab and Recycling Center, weekly sessions to fix items or create new things with Concrete Couch. Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Fare Bella classes, offering courses on topics such as: "Florals Up Close," "Celebration of Solitude," "Watercolor Batik," "Finding Your Visual Voice," and more. Fare Bella Studio and Gallery, 16 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, 720/226-4315.

I am the space where I am, a performance art piece based on the poetic qualities of space. March 7-9, 7-9 p.m. Free. CC's Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6606, coloradocollege.edu.

PICK **Spring Colors,** a fashion show and silent art auction to fund a workshop that will help middle- and high-school students learn the fashion and garment industry. Sun., March 10, 2-5 p.m. Free, donations accepted. The Loft, 2506 W. Colorado Ave., 445-9278, brilliantgarmentco.com.

We Are Not Rembrandt III, an eclectic night of music and art featuring 13 local artists and six music acts of various genres, as well as several very special surprise guests. See Facebook for full lineup. Sat., March 9, 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. $5. Zodiac, 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059, facebook.com/events/183590968431944/.

Wine and Art Saturdays, a weekly event for appreciation of creative endeavors, both high-culture and viticulture. Saturdays, 4-6 p.m. Hayden Hays Broadmoor Galleries, 1 Lake Circle, 577-5744, haydenhaysgallery.com.

ArtExhibits

Arati Artists Gallery, 2425 W. Colorado Ave., 636-1901, aratiartists.com. *Time Marches On*, an exhibition featuring work from Marian Busey and Don Orr. Opening reception, Sun., March 10, 1 p.m.

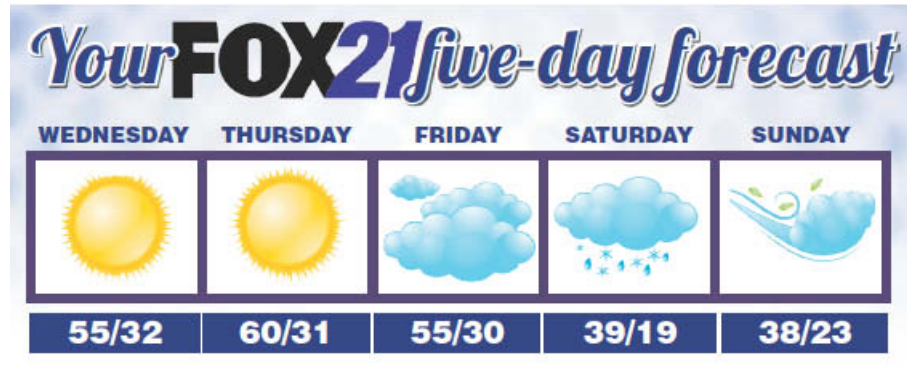
Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com. *Live, Laugh, Love Our Art*, an exhibition of works from students at Manitou Springs Elementary School, inspired by everyone from O'Keeffe to Chagall to local artist Steve Wood. Through March 11. Public reception Sun., March 10, 2-4 p.m.

Cottonwood on Tejon, 214½ N. Tejon St., 313-9894, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com/tejon. Jacqueline Pearson, an exhibition of paintings that celebrate the everyday and the overlooked in vibrant color. Through March 31.

Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College, 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, ppcc.edu/departments/art/pppcc-art-gallery. *AIR LIGHT BREATH*, an exhibit by Corey Drieth, Donny Dixon, DeLane Bredvik and Tanya Gelster concerning "physical manifestations of ethereal phenomena." March 8 to April 12. Opening reception, Fri., March 8, 5-7:30 p.m.

G44 Gallery, 1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, g44gallery.com. *You Already Know How This Will End*, an exhibition of the "minimalist and hauntingly beautiful" work of Michael Dowling. March 8 to May 3. Opening reception Fri., March 8, 6 p.m.

GOCA 121, 121 S. Tejon St., #100, 255-3504, galleryuccs.org. *Ceramica: Contemporary Clay*, a group exhibit featuring artwork done in clay



from locals like Mark Wong to Michigan artist Elaine Ng. Through April 12.

PICK **GOCA 1420 at UCCS,** 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 255-3567, galleryuccs.org. *styrobot: nothing comes from nothing*, a solo show by Michael Salter for which he has built a giant meditating robot out of collected pieces of foam packing material. Through March 22.

Gold Hill Mesa Community Center, 142 S. Raven Mine Drive. *Faces of the Fire*, a photo exhibit and multimedia gallery show documenting the Waldo Canyon Fire, from the perspective of the residents who lived through it. Through Aug. 31.

I.D.E.A. Space at Colorado College, Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6066, theideaspace.com. *American Qur'an*, an exhibit of paintings depicting Los Angeles artist Sandow Birk's modern interpretation of the Muslim holy book. Through March 12.

Mediterranean Cafe, 118 E. Kiowa St., 540-2038, medcafe-co.com. *The Odyssey*, a series of paintings depicting the healing process after an accident. Through March 16.

Sabi, 330 N. Institute St., 471-4237, facebook.com. *Dream Team Show*, a special one-year anniversary show featuring works from Marc Huebert, Seth Lockard, Richard Arnot and Tylan Troyer. Opening reception features magic, fire-eating, sword-swallowing, music from DJ SEWN, Vagabond Misfits dancers and catering by Lofty's. March 8-31. Opening reception Fri., March 8, 7 p.m.

Shears, 334 N. Nevada Ave., 633-4273, shears-barbershop.com. *Abstract Expressions*, new paintings, encaustics and mixed-media works from local artists Sheary Clough Suiter and Nard Claar. Through March 15.

S.P.Q.R., 17B E. Bijou St., 633-4240. *Cole Bennett and Shannon Dunn*, a dual show from Bennett, who makes his own paper and creates detailed, Japanese-woodcut-inspired pieces. Dunn, meanwhile, creates work that derives from her background in printmaking and "love for stylized, simplified drawings." Through March 31.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, trilakesarts.org. *Fourth Annual Visions of Light Photography Show*, a juried exhibition judged by a panel of local artists and photographer John Fielder Through March 30. Opening reception, Fri., March 8, 5:30 p.m.

Auditions&Entries

Business of Art Center seeks entries for its juried photography exhibition *Colorado in Focus*. Work must be delivered ready to hang. Deadline for entries is April 14. $10 for first piece, $5 for each additional. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. The BAC also seeks submissions for a *Wunderkind Alumni* exhibit to run in conjunction with the annual *Wunderkind* show. Submit digital images of works via e-mail by March 8. patrick@thebac.org, thebac.org.

Colorado Association for Recycling seeks entries for its seventh annual Recycling Poster Contest, open to students grades K-12. Prizes include gift cards and workshops from Project Learning Tree. Visit website for more info and entry guidelines. Deadline: April 26. 583-4309, aldred@co.pueblo.co.us, cafr.org/events/posterContest.php.

Commonwheel Artists Co-op seeks a 3-D artist or potter to join the gallery. Even if you have entered and been denied before, please re-apply. Applications are available online and are due March 11 at 6 p.m. Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com.

Cottonwood Center for the Arts seeks entries for its upcoming show, *The Life Abstract*. Abstract, nonfigurative, nonobjective or nonrepresentational works in a variety of media including 3-D will be considered. Intake: March 21-22. It also seeks entries for its upcoming show, *Wily and Wonderful Things*. Works celebrating the aesthetics of outsider art and steampunk will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art. Intake: May 23-24. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Marmalade at Smokebrush seeks entries in various media for its annual *Spring Awakening* juried show. E-mail entries or call to schedule a time to view. Deadline for entries is March 22. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush@gmail.com, smokebrush.org.

Pikes Peak Library District seeks photos of your favorite "third place" — a space away from home or work you feel comfortable and engaged in. Through March 31. ppld.org/21centurylibrary.

Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church seeks a drummer to perform in its upcoming mu-

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by C.S. Lewis

March 8, 9, 10,
March 15, 16 & 17
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sical, *In Remembrance*. Performances in early April. Call for details. Through March 31. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 578-5626.

TheatreWorks will hold auditions for its summer Shakespeare production of *Cymbeline* Sat., March 16, 1-5 p.m. and Sun., March 17, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Actors should prepare at least one Shakespearean monologue, and may be asked to read from *Cymbeline*. Go online to schedule an audition time (no phone calls). UCCS' Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Theater, 3955 Regent Circle, 255-3232, theatreworkscs.org/auditions.html.

Clubs&Organizations

Colorado Springs Women's Express Network, a networking luncheon featuring a speaker designed to "inspire, motivate or empower women in business." RSVP no later than Tuesday prior to each event. Second Friday of every month, 11:15 a.m. $30. Garden of the Gods Club, 3320 Mesa Road, 338-0827, cswen.org.

EntSpirational Speakers Toastmasters Club, a public-speaking and leadership club meeting at 7350 Campus Drive. First and third Wednesday of every month, 12:05 p.m. entspirational.toastmastersclubs.org.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group, a Christ-centered support group for grandparents who are involved full-time in caregiving for their grandchildren or kin. Second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 219 E. Bijou St., 884-6100, first-pres.org.

Middle East Peace Project, a group for people interested in promoting "a just resolution to the Israel-Palestine conflict." First Thursday of every month, 5 p.m. Free. Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission, 332 W. Bijou St. #102, 715/803-3488, middleeastpeaceproject.net.

Open Coffee Club, a meeting for local entrepreneurs with speaker Paul Berberian, CEO of Orbotix. RSVP online. Thurs., March 7, 7:30 a.m. EpiCentral, 409 North Tejon, #106, meetup.com/opencoffeeclub. a chance to network with like-minded local entrepreneurs. First Thursday of every month. The Perk Downtown, 14 S. Tejon St., 924-5479, meetup.com/opencoffeeclub.

Parent Education/Toddler Playgroup, a "positive parenting" playgroup for 2- to 3-year-olds. Call for location. Fridays, 9:30 a.m.; through March 8. 785-3714.

Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners, a casual meeting of this group, a part of Westerners International that meets for a social hour at 6 and then dinner at 6:30 p.m. ($15.) RSVP to attend the Friday prior to each meeting at 10 a.m. Second Monday of every month except July, August and December. Colorado Springs Masonic Hall, 1150 Panorama Drive, 473-0330, posse@dewittenterprises.com.

Sno Jets Ski and Social Club, a club for ski enthusiasts. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Dublin House, 1850 Dominion Way, 265-8820, snojets.org.

Comedy&Improv

Jeff Dunham, Sat., March 9, 5 p.m. $46.50. World Arena, 3185 Venetucci Blvd., 477-2121, worldarena.com.

Matt Beatz, March 7-9. $2-$10, two-item minimum. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

Stick Horses in Pants, family-friendly comedy. Second Friday of every month, 8 p.m.; through May 10. $8-$10. The Loft, 2506 W. Colorado Ave., 387-9911, facebook.com/thestickhorses.

Concerts

Friends House Concerts: Seth Glier, Sun., March 24, 7 p.m. ($20); Antje Duvekot, Sat., April 20, 7:30 p.m. ($25; Peter Mulvey, Sun., June 16, 7 p.m. ($25). Payment should be checks made out to Friends House Concerts. house-concerts.org.

Gateways, a performance from the Colorado Vocal Art Ensemble's high-school residency program. Fri., March 8, 7:30 p.m. Free. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 720/290-3741, cvae.org.

Mozart & Prokofiev, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic performs with violinist Michael Hanson, Josep Caballé-Domenech conducting. Sat., March 9, 8 p.m. and Sun., March 10, 2:30 p.m. $19-$59. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, csphilharmonic.org.

Music Jam, a jam for those with little or no musical experience. Fridays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

PICK **The Bridge Gallery,** 218 W. Colorado Ave., thebridgeartgallery.com. Through March 30. *Spring Forward*, an exhibition of interpretations on the theme in various media. Through March 30.

Rocky Mountain High: A Tribute to John Denver by Ted Vigil, Fri., March 8, 7:30 p.m. $27-$30. Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org.

Sea Chanters Chorus, a recital from the U.S. Navy Band's choral ensemble of everything from sea chanteys and patriotic fare to opera, Broadway and contemporary music. Wed., March 6, 7 p.m. Mitchell High School, 1205 Potter Drive, 328-6628, navyband.navy.mil/sea_chanters.shtml.

Visiting Artist Concert: Karen Bentley Pollick and Ivan Sokolov, with selections from Jan Jirasek, Claude Debussy, pianist Ivan Sokolov, and Ofer Ben-Amots of Colorado College. Fri., March 8, 7:30 p.m. Free. CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

DancePerformances

L.I.F.E. Step Show Competition, a special fundraising event to benefit the community center, featuring performances by step teams from throughout the state competing for a $1,000 grand prize. Sat., March 9, 6:30-9:30 p.m. $5-10. Hillside Community Center, 925 S. Institute St., 520-9463, facebook.com/events/240206696114121.

Soul Mechanics, a "public jam session" from the local break-dancing crew. Mondays, Wednesdays, 9 p.m. Ormao Dance Company, 10 S. Spruce St., 471-9759, ormaodance.org.

DanceParties&Classes

Andante Blues Dance, a chance to dance this "distinctly American dance." A beginners lesson provided. No partner required. Fridays, 9 p.m. $4-$6 donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, kkschmidt@lettucebrain.com.

"Brazilian Samba," a dance workshop. Sat., March 9, 2 p.m. $15-$25. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush.org.

Country-Western Dance Party, easy line dances, cowboy cha-chas, two-steps and square dances with the help of instructors. No partner or experience required. Come at 7 p.m. for new-dancer instructions. Second and Fourth Saturday of every month, 7:30-9:30 p.m. $1-$5. The Carriage Stop, 2700 W. Robinson St., 598-8624, roncounts.com.

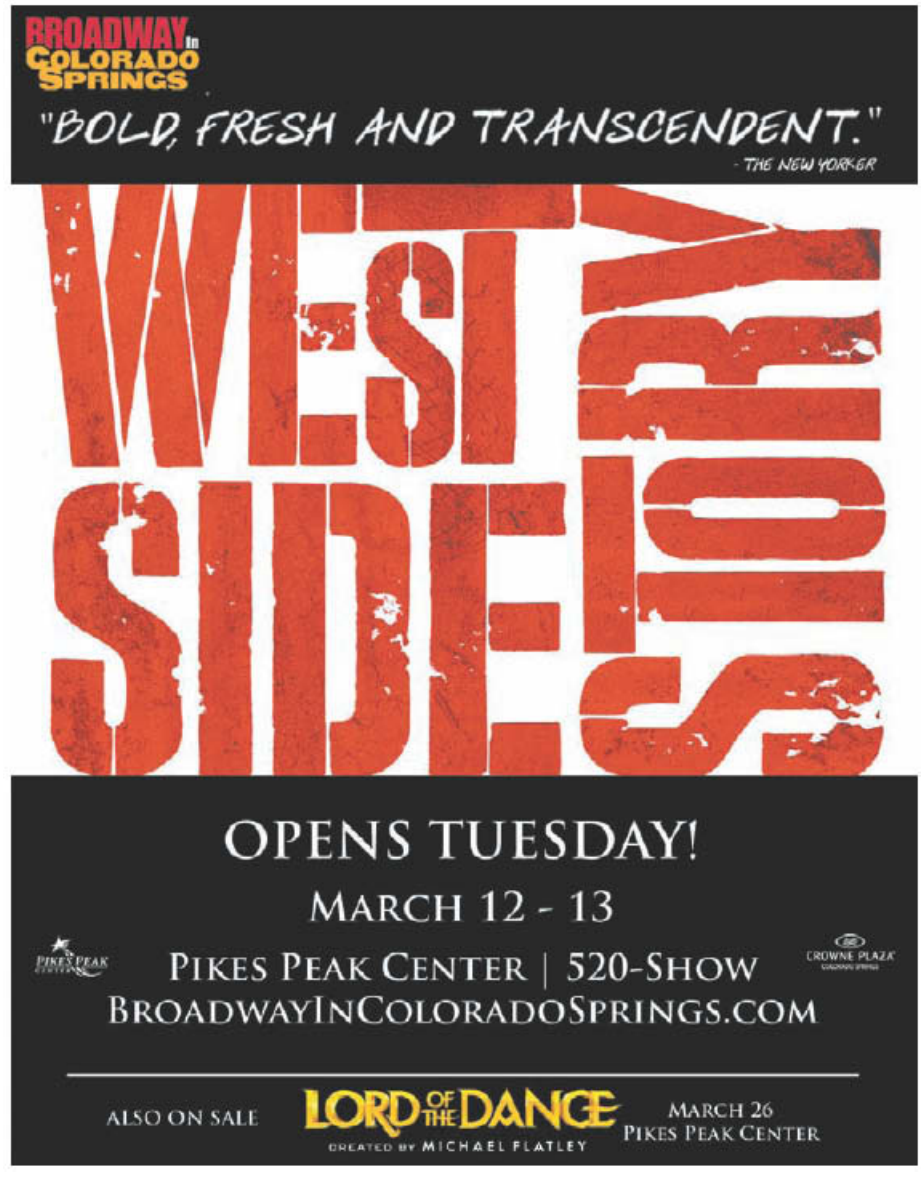
Progressive Blues, a progressive series of Lindy Hop classes focusing on vintage jazz moves. Wednesdays, March 6-20, at 8:30 p.m. $30 for all classes, $15 each. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809.

Swing in the Springs, beginner and intermediate swing dance classes covering a variety of styles, followed by a free East Coast Swing class and a DJed dance. Casual dress, but no street shoes. Sundays, 7:30-10 p.m. $6. VFW Hall, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 210-4697, swinginthesprings.com.

Tango Lessons, Tuesdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900, cucurugallerycafe.com.

Film

Cinemaholics, weekly film screenings with free



popcorn and drink specials. Go online for updates. Tuesdays, 9-11:30 p.m. Free. Shuga's, 702 S. Cascade Ave., 328-1412, shugasblog.com.

Wonder Women! The Untold Story of American Superheroines, two screenings of this new documentary showing how representations of women in comics and onscreen reflected the liberation movement; with Lynda Carter, Lindsay Wagner, Gloria Steinem and others. Thurs., March 7, 6 and 8 p.m. Free. Tim Gill Center for Public Media, 315 E. Costilla St., wonderwomendoc.com.

Food & Drink

The Curious Palate, monthly tasting sessions with dynamic topics, including: whiskey, sake, rum, Gentleman Cocktails and more. RSVP to attend. Second Tuesday of every month, 5:30 p.m. $25. Soirée Events & Celebrations, 1003 A&B S. Tejon St., 351-7191, coloradospringsvenue.com.

Dinner with Our Chef in the Kitchen, a five-course dinner with wine prepared by Chef Larissa Warner. Reservations required. Thursdays, 7 p.m. $35 per person. Garden of the Gods Gourmet, 2528 W. Cucharras St., 471-2799, godsgourmet.net.

Geeks Who Drink Pub Quiz, Mondays, 8 p.m. Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766, jackquinnspub.com. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Tony's Bar, 311 N. Tejon St., 228-6566, tonysdowntownbar.com. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. McCabe's Tavern, 520 S. Tejon St., 633-3300, mccabestavern.com.

PICK **The Wines of France,** this year's Wine Festival of Colorado Springs focuses on France, with seminars, a grand tasting and wine market auction, and a gourmet dinner. Hosted by the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and held at various locations around town. Go online to sign up. March 7-9. csfineartscenter.org.

Winter Farmers Market, a selection of local seasonal goods including vegetables, apples, eggs, cheese, bread and meats as well as soap and alpaca-wool yarn. Second Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; through March 30. Ute Pass Cultural Center, 210 E. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 689-3133, woodlandparkfarmersmarket.com.

GetInvolved

International Women's Day Celebration, a program of talks from local women making an international impact, including Becky Kiser, founder of The Trampled Rose, Sarah Ray of Yobel Market and Fulbright scholar Fran Pilch. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will precede the speakers; RSVP requested. Fri., March 8, 6-8:30 p.m. $20-30. The Carter Payne, 320 S. Weber St., 460-4960, iwd-coloradosprings.org.

National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Luncheon, the annual awareness event sponsored by the Southern Colorado AIDS Project. March 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. $20. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 578-9092, s-cap.org.

Health&Healing

"Awareness Through Movement," a series of six classes designed to "help you learn to move wisely and bring relaxation to your life." Fridays through March 29. $15 per class. Yoga Journeys Studio, 709 N. Nevada Ave., #201.

Deep Hips Yoga, a 90-minute hot yoga class focusing on sun salutations and deep stretching and relaxation of the hips. Sat., March 9, 6:30-8 p.m. $15. cambio. Yoga, 3326 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 321-8547, cambioyoga.com.

GLBQTA Yoga, exercise in a safe and empowering environment friendly toward beginners. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. Donations welcome. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 304-9130, info@yogajuan.com.

Manitou Yoga School Teacher Training Info Night, a session for yoga practitioners interested in teaching. Semester runs April 9-June 4. Thurs., March 7, 7:15 p.m. and Thurs., March 21, 7:15 p.m. Phoenix Yoga Lounge, 124 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, 641-8325.

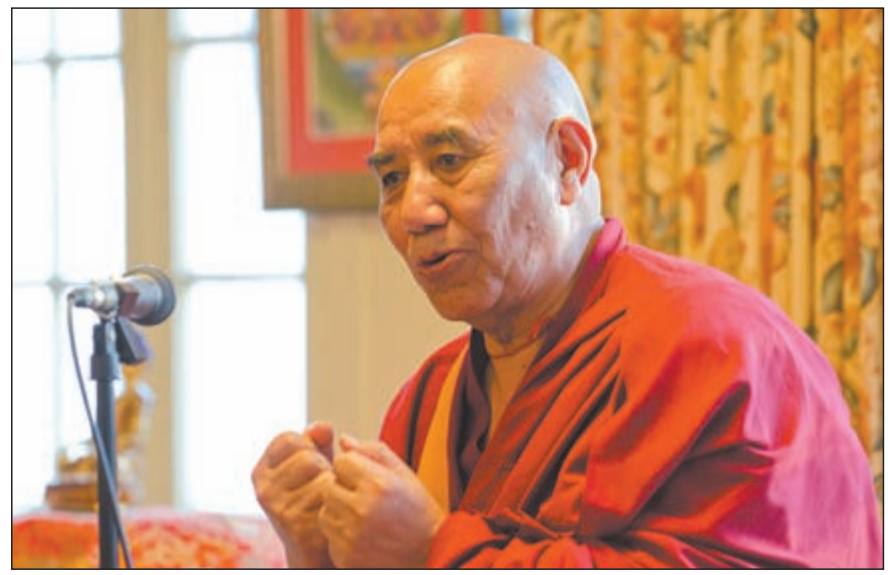
Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps for Youth, a three- to four-month course for youths who are at-risk for substance abuse. $15. Lotus Center for Self-Discovery, 2860 S. Circle Drive, #120, 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

PTSD Peer-Led Support Group, a support group for the spouses or significant others of veterans or current military personnel suffering with PTSD. Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. Veterans' Affairs Clinic, 25 N. Spruce St., #207, 685-1965.

PTSD Support Group, for soldiers experiencing nightmares, flashbacks, insomnia, irritability, and/or hyper-vigilance. Meet with other soldiers who are experiencing the same symptoms. Facilitated by licensed therapist. Confidential. Covered by Tricare. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m. Soldier Life Center, 1767 S. Eighth St., #100, 471-0800, soldierlifecenter.com.

Rockies Counseling Center Therapy, offering weekly support groups covering grief and loss, Love and Logic parenting, and Dialectic Behavioral Therapy Skills Group. Call for more info and to register. University of the Rockies, 555 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 442-0606, rockies.edu.

Yoga for Beginners, a donation-based class for beginners. Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. Sunrise Yoga Studio, 313 N. Tejon St., #1, 216-8367, vibranthealthclinic.com.



PICK **"Buddhist Path of Love,"** a lecture from monk Khen Rinpoche Lobzang Tsetan and Colorado College's David Gardiner on the benefits of practicing Buddhist traditions. Sat., March 9, 6 p.m. $15. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 632-7678, bodhimindcenter.org.

Kids&Family

Camp Whiskers & Wags: Spring Edition, a spring break program for kids who will interact with a variety of animals at the Humane Society. March 26-29. $45 per day. Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, 610 Abbott Lane, 473-1741, hsppr.org/camp.

Fountain Creek Nature Adventures — "What Makes a Mammal?" a morning of puppet shows, nature stories, a craft and more, for kids 3-6, with an adult. Reservations required. Thurs., March 7, 9 a.m. $4. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745, elpasocountyparks.com.

Kids in the Kitchen, an event focused on childhood obesity, featuring food preparation, fitness activities and more. Sat., March 9, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Freedom Financial Services Expo Center, 3650 N. Nevada Ave., 632-3855.

Lectures&Learning

Alpaca Felting Class, a chance to learn wet felting technique and make a hat, purse or wine cooler

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Mon, Mar. 11th - 7:00pm
THE SWINGIN UTTERS
WILD ROSES (FEAT MARC ORRELL OF BKM), DISGUISE THE SPY, SPATGASM
Wed, Mar. 13th - 7:00pm
OTHERWISE
GEMINI SYNDROME, GIRL ON FIRE, LOLA BLACK
Thu, Mar. 14th - 7:30pm
WHY THEY FIGHT
TAKE IT TO 88, AIM2MISS
Fri, Mar. 15th - 7:30pm
GET ALONG
SEAN WALDRON, BAD MAPS
Sat, Mar. 16th - 8:00pm
THE BEN MILLER BAND
EDITH MAKES A PAPER CHAIN, HUDSON GRACE
Mon, Mar. 18th - 6:30pm
PRESENTED BY 94.3 KILO
CLUTCH
ORANGE GOBLIN, LIONIZE, SCORPION CHILD
Tue, Mar. 19th - 8:00pm
PAPER BIRD
HE'S MY BROTHER SHE'S MY SISTER, DESIRAE GARCIA (OF THE HAUNTED WINCHIMES)
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MAR 21 - PEELANDER-Z
MAR 22 - ALTARS
MAR 23 - THE PINES
MAR 25 - IN THIS MOMENT
MAR 27 - THE PINSTRIPES
MAR 28 - AIR DUBAI
MAR 30 - EXHUMED
APR 1 - ADRENALINE MOB
APR 2 - MINUS THE BEAR
APR 3 & 4 - AS I LAY DYING, THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
APR 6 - RADICAL SOMETHING
APR 10 - THE PARLOTONES
APR 14 - FEAR FACTORY
APR 17 - FAMILY OF THE YEAR
APR 20 - VOODOO GLOW SKULLS
APR 27 - KING
APR 30 - CHUNK, NO CAPTAIN CHUNK!
MAY 3 - I AM DYNAMITE
MAY 10 - BUILT TO SPILL
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to take home. Class fee includes materials and lunch. Reservations recommended. Sun., March 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Peak Ranch Alpacas, 19850 Beacon Lite Road, Monument, 232-8509, peakranch@comcast.net, peakranchalpacas.com.

"Colonel Edward Wynkoop: Petty Crook to Lonely Hero," a free lecture from Lew Archer with mineral water lemonade. Sun., March 10, 3 p.m. Manitou Springs Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1454, manitouspringsheritagecenter.org.

Colorado Women: Beyond Molly Brown, a diverse tour through Colorado's history with author Gail Beaton, highlighting the contributions of Native American, Hispanic, anglo and black women from around the state. RSVP requested. Sat., March 9, 2-3 p.m. Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org.

"The Colorful Tale of Buckskin Joe," a lecture on the famous Western movie set from Sherry Johns. Fri., March 8, 11 a.m. $5. Old Colorado City Historic Center, 1 S. 24th St., 636-1225, history.oldcolo.com.

PICK **Coyote Encounters,** two chances to learn how to avoid coyote conflict and connect with progressive local wildlife management programs. Pre-registration required. Sat., March 9, 10-11 a.m. and Wed., March 13, 6-7 p.m. Bear Creek Nature Center, 245 Bear Creek Road, 520-6387, elpasocountyparks.com.

Iain Thomson on "Thinking Love: Heidegger and Arendt," a lecture from Professor Thomson of the University of New Mexico, who is one of the most prominent young philosophers working with Heidegger's theories. Thurs., March 7, 3:30 p.m. Free. CC's Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

"Machiavelli's Prince: A Revolution in Thought," a lecture from Dr. Catherine Zuckert, from the University of Notre Dame to honor the 500th anniversary of *The Prince*. Fri., March 8, 3:30 p.m. Free. CC's McHugh Student Commons, 1090 N. Cascade Ave., coloradocollege.edu.

"Machiavelli's Women and the Imagination: A Legacy of Shattered Forms," to honor the 500th anniversary of the penning of *The Prince*, Dr. Arlene Saxonhouse, of the University of Michigan will speak on Machiavelli's relationship with women. Thurs., March 7, 7:30 p.m. Free. CC's Gates Common Room, 1025 N. Cascade Ave, coloradocollege.edu.

PICK **"The Man and His Connection to Opera,"** a lecture from Josep Caballé-Domenech, music director at the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. Wed., March 6, 4 p.m. Broadmoor Community Church, 315 Lake Ave., 593-8802, pikespeakoperaleague.org.

Religion and Violence: Terrorism, Provocation, and Solutions, a lecture exploring three central questions of religious violence in current events: why religion? why violence? and why now? Thurs., March 7, 7:15 p.m. Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade Ave., 303/669-2836, uccs.edu/rdpl.

Remembering the Power of Nonviolence, a discussion of the Tibetan Buddhist rationale for meeting fierce oppression with nonviolence rooted in deep spiritual strength. Featured speakers: Khen Rinpoche, David Gardiner and Rev. Benjamin Broadbent. Sun., March 10, 2-4:30 p.m. $15. First Congregational Church, 20 E. St. Vrain St., 632-7678, bodhimindcenter.org.

"Soil — The Foundation of a Successful Garden," two classes from the Colorado State University Extension Office on the basics of soil care. One class will be held Tues., March 12 from 2-4 p.m. at the CSU Extension Office, 305 S. Union Blvd. and repeated Thurs., March 14 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the El Paso County Citizen's Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

"What Are the Chances: Probability Made Clear," a talk by Gregory J. Morrow, chair and professor of the UCCS mathematics department. Coffee provided. Held in room 302. Fri., March 8, 9:30 a.m. Free. UCCS' University Center, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., uccs.edu/~curiosity.

LiteraryEvents

Colorado Springs Writers Reading Series, a chance for writers to share their work with a group. Michael Galvin will play classical music at the event beginning at 6:30. Sat., March 9, 7:30 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Covered Treasures Bookstore Book Signing, a chance to meet Holly Sly, author of *Toolbox From Heaven*. Thurs., March 7, 6:30-8 p.m. Covered Treasures Bookstore, 105 Second St., Monument, 481-2665.

"Hear Here" Poetry Open Mic, an all-ages poetry open mic hosted by Poetry 719. Preceding the

slam, a poetry writing workshop will be given at 6. Second and third Saturday of every month, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 964-4499, tinyurl.com/hearhere719.

The Story Project, a night of live storytelling from Doug Clausen, Richard Marold, Bill Hochman and Pat Musick. Fri., March 8, 7 p.m. $5. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush.org.

Word Wednesdays, an open mic session for poets, comedians, actors, singers and other performers to share their work. Search the event on Facebook for more. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 313-0683.

Museums&Attractions

Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org. *To the Moon: Snoopy Soars with NASA*, an exhibit exploring the events leading up to the 1969 moon landing and the role Charles M. Schulz's Peanuts characters played in the Apollo 10 launch and the NASA Manned Flight Awareness safety program. Schultz was also once a Springs resident, which will be another part of the show. Through April 20. *Windows into History*, a highlights tour of some of the curators' favorite stories and artifacts. Reservations recommended. Saturdays, 12-12:30 p.m. *From Paris to the Plains: The Artistry of Artus & Anne Van Briggle*, a showcase of 150 pieces of pottery reflecting the high innovation and craftsmanship of the Van Briggles.

Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center, 1805 N. 30th St., 219-0108, gardenofgods.com. Lunch & A Look at the Garden, a lecture series focusing on the life and times of the Garden, from history to nature to adventure tours, with an opportunity to continue the discussion over lunch at the café. Reservations recommended. Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.; through March 26.

Western Museum of Mining and Industry, 225 Northgate Blvd., 488-0880, wmmi.org. *Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Portrait Gallery*, a special exhibit in honor of National Women's History Month highlighting the heroines of Colorado history. Through March 31. $4-8.

PICK **Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center,** 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org. *Families*, a multidisciplinary project featuring two exhibits, *A Family Affair: Selections from the Progressive Art Collection*, a multimedia show featuring numerous angles on the idea of family from contemporary and emerging artists, and *Mother: Photography by Carol S. Dass*, a solo show by this local photographer seeing her mother through new eyes (pictured). Through May 19. *Wrap Art: Guatemalan Textiles from the Permanent Collection*, as part of the FAC's *Raiding the Crates* series, a guest-curated exhibit of Guatemalan textiles. Through May 26.

SpecialEvents

Career Fair, a reception for new college graduates to meet with nearly 50 local, regional, state and national employers looking to hire. Wed., March 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. CSU-Pueblo's Occhiato University Center, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2576, colostate-pueblo.edu.

Colorado Springs Engineering Summit, a chance for students and parents to learn more about the field of engineering and what job opportunities exist. The summit includes vendors, breakout sessions, speakers and more. Sat., March 9, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. $20 family, $10 individual, or $5 plus five canned goods per family. Freedom Financial Services Expo Center, 3650 N. Nevada Ave., 592-1800.

An Evening Safari, a dinner featuring auctions and more, from the Greater Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce. RSVP by March 12 for the March 15, 5:30 p.m. event. $50. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 687-9885, antlers.com.

ISSA March Security Event, an event for information-systems security professionals. Fri., March 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. $45-$75. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2886 S. Circle Drive, issa-cos.org.

Shoestring Shoppe Crawl, a chance to shop. Sun., March 10, 1-5 p.m. shoestringevents.biz/crawl.

Tour de Frack, an all-day tour of active oil and gas wells in Weld County with Shane Davis, chair of the Poudre Canyon Sierra Club. Those interested should meet at Denny's, 315 W. Bijou St. Sat., March 9, 7:30 a.m. 360-9609, misskaryna@ymail.com.

WinterGreen, a celebration of eco-friendly building practices as WinterGreen goes "Army Green" with a project gallery, networking hour and presentation on Fort Carson's LEED installations. Pre-registration required for optional tour of the LEED Platinum-certified 4th IBCT Brigade and Battalion Headquarters. Thurs., March 7, 4:30-7:30 p.m. $15. Elkhorn Conference Center, 1725 Woodfill Road, #7300, usgreenbuildingcouncil-colorado.memberlodge.org.

Youth Job Fair, a chance for 16- to 21-year-olds to meet with employers hiring for summer jobs. Pre-registration deadline: March 6. Thurs., March 7, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., 667-3860, ppwfc.org.

Spirituality

Spiritual Guide, offering low-cost sessions to help participants "explore and deepen your spirituality, inner peace and well-being." Call 719/388-6490 to sign up.

Spirituality Group, Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Black Cat Books, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, manitou-books.com.

Springs Mountain Sangha, offering Zen meditation sessions Monday evenings from 6:10-8 p.m. (newcomers please arrive at 5:45); Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 a.m.; and Saturdays 6:30-8:30 a.m. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 685-1994, smszen.org.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation, join for Tibetan Buddhist meditation and teaching on offerings practice with Venerable Sangpo. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Free, or by donation. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 447-9880, tsling.org.

Uncovering Past Lifetimes, an examination of hypnosis, past-life theories and regression experiences with Certified Medical Support Clinical Hypnotherapist Barbara Stafford. Sat., March 9, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. $25. Unity Church in the Rockies, 1945 Mesa Road, 238-5945, Barbara@cospringshypnotherapy.com, cospringshypnotherapy.com.

Sports&Recreation

Body Toning, a one-hour stretching and strengthening class. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, movementartscs.com.

Cancer Survivor Fitness Program, a basic eight-week strength and conditioning course. Dates/times flexible; call for more information. Phenom 1 Fitness, 1360 N. Academy Blvd., 330-4331, Lift4Life.org.

C'mon Run, free weekly 5K runs (or walks) with a free drink for each run and more freebies for the more runs you complete. Thursdays, 5 p.m. C'mon Inn, 711 Dale St., Fountain, 382-7562, cmoninnfountain.com.

Coquette's Incline Club, a Saturday morning workout in rain, snow or shine; also enjoy socializing, coffee and food. Ten climbs earns a free T-shirt. Saturdays, 8 a.m. Coquette's Bistro & Bakery, 915 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-2420, coquettesbistroandbakery.com.

First & Main Run Club, weekly 3K and 5K runs with monthly prizes for club members. Held in the field behind Rock Bottom. Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Rock Bottom, 3316 Cinema Point Drive, 550-3586, facebook.com/rbrunclub.

Second Anniversary Party and Sale, a celebration and winter clearance sale featuring prizes and giveaways. Sat., March 9, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mountain Equipment Recyclers, 1024 S. Tejon St., 210-6427, merecyclers.com.

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- **Waxing:** head to toe $20 and up
- **Lymph/Vac/Oxy steam/Microcurrent:** 30 min./$45 Maintenance for aging skin
- **Body Health:** exfo/sea wrap/Jacuzzi/oxy steam tank 2.5 hrs./ $185 Rejuvenating
- **Eyelash/Brow tint:** $30. w/facial $25. Lash extension $100
- **Body Toning w/Slendertone:** $30. Safe Spray Tan $30.
- **Ear Candling:** 45 min. for both ears $40

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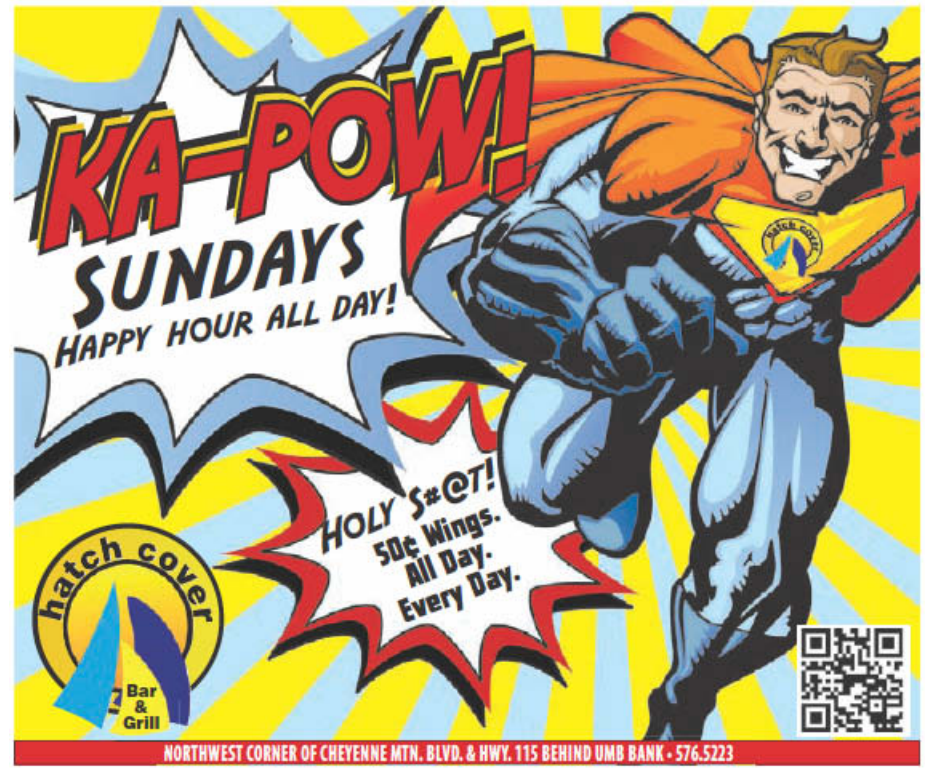

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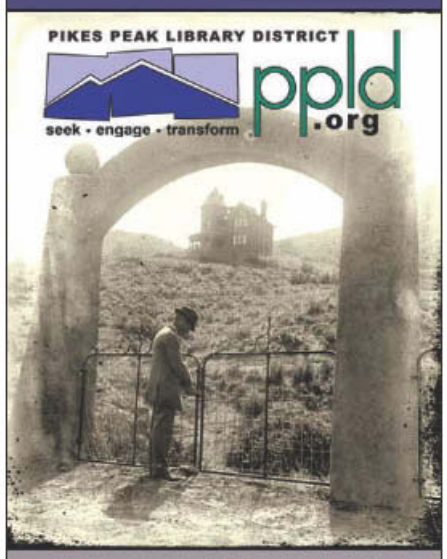
Screening of Phantoms in the Archives: Unlocking a Manitou Springs Mystery
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SouthSide Johnny's Running Club, a running club with the added benefit of CrossFit, or "workouts comprised of constantly varied functional movements (like pushing, pulling, squatting, lifting, running) executed at high intensity." Wednesdays, 6 p.m. SouthSide Johnny's, 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487, tinyurl.com/ssjrunning.

St. Patrick's Day Walk, a non-competitive walk from the Falcon Wanderers meeting at 2924 N. Beacon St. Sat., March 9, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free. falconwanderers.org.

University Village Colorado Running Club, a club where you can run, jog or walk on one on-site loop of a single mile, or two others running north or south on the Pikes Peak Greenway Trail for four or six miles round-trip, respectively. Meet by Smashburger to check in. Mondays, 5:15 p.m. Free. University Village Colorado, 5230 N. Nevada Ave., 632-5000, uvcrunningclub.com.

PICK **WWE RAW World Tour,** a chance to see John Cena, The Miz and others. Fri., March 8, 7:30 p.m. $18-$98. World Arena, 3185 Venetucci Blvd., 477-2121, worldarena.com.

Youth Rugby Clinic, a free intro to the sport of non-contact rugby for middle school boys and girls, taught by local coaches and sponsored by School District 11. Tues., March 12, 5-7 p.m. Garry Barry Stadium, 2115 Afton Way, 520-2690, michael.garcia@d-11.org.

Stage

Arsenic and Old Lace, a performance by the theater department of Joseph Kesselring's 1939 classic. March 7-9, 7 p.m. $5.50-$12. Colorado Springs Charter Academy, 2577 N. Chelton Road, 636-2722, cscharter.org.

Coming Home, a special showtunes revue from Broadway expatriate Susan Dawn Carson, taking place in the new MAT venue in Ivywild, 1626 S. Tejon St. and raising funds for its renovation. Pre-show reception hosted by the Blue Star and Bristol Brewery; reservations recommended. Sat., March 9, 7 p.m. $50. 465-6321, themat.org.

Everyman on the Bus, a re-staging of the classic English morality play on a 70-minute bus ride through downtown, presented by TheatreWorks. Reservations strongly recommended. Through March 17. $15-$45. The Mining Exchange, A Wyndham Grand Hotel, 8 S. Nevada Ave., 255-3232, theatreworkscs.org.

The Hans Christian Andersen Storybook, a "tribute" to Andersen done with marionettes, wherein "the Ugly Duckling voices objections to his author." Through March 17. Simpich Showcase, 2413 W. Colorado Ave., 465-2492, simpich.com.

Immortal Solstice, a gypsy performance from the Graveyard Girlz, featuring dance, theater and film. Sat., March 9, 7 p.m. $10-$12. Damon Runyon Repertory Theatre, 611 N. Main St., Pueblo, 332-9393, facebook.com/graveyardgirlz.

Midtown Men, a performance by members from the original cast of *Jersey Boys* singing music of the 1960s: "California Dreaming," "Sherry," and more. Fri., March 8, 7:30 p.m. $30-$45. USAFA's Arnold Hall, 2302 Cadet Drive, 333-4497, usafaservices.com/academy-concerts/academy-concerts.

VolunteerOpportunities

Become a Big Brother or Big Sister, an orientation on the program. Sat., March 9, 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Free. Cheyenne Mountain Library, 1785 S. Eighth St., #100, 359-9842, ppld.org.

CASA 4-1-1 Night, a chance for community members to learn about opportunities to make a difference in the life of a local child involved in a case of abuse, neglect or severe domestic conflict. Thurs., March 7, 5:30 p.m. CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, 701 S. Cascade Ave., 447-9898, casappr.org.

City of Colorado Springs seeks people to serve on the Planning Commission, a nine-member body which reviews land-use applications. Deadline for applications is March 13. 385-5453, mdevine@springsgov.com.

Fountain Creek Nature Center seeks teens 14 and up to volunteer as aides for Spring Break and Summer Nature Camps and special events. Participate in games, crafts and activities with small children; help with setup and cleanup. Call or e-mail for application. Through Aug. 31. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745, nancybernard@elpasoco.com, elpasocountyparks.com.

Girls on the Run seeks adults interested in coaching girls grades 3-8 in training for a 5K beginning early March. Visit website for application. Through March 13. 331-1011, girlsontherunrockies.org.

PICK ***Afternoon of a Fire,*** a performance commemorating the Waldo Canyon Fire from the Bowed Piano Ensemble and soloist Victoria Hansen. Thurs., March 7, 7:30 p.m. Free. CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St., 389-6607, colorado-college.edu.

Peak Area Council of Governments seeks volunteers with good clerical and customer service skills to help seniors improve their independence and quality of life by working in the Senior Information and Assistance Center (SIAC). Time commitment: 4-7 hours per week. 471-7080, jwilkinson@ppacg.org.

Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care is seeking volunteers in various capacities, especially for help on the weekends, such as working in prescription animal therapy, courier duties, vigil volunteers (who sit with dying patients) and Helping Hands volunteers who perform various chores after a patient dies. Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care, 2550 Tenderfoot Hill St., 633-3400 ext. 600, pikespeakhospice.org.

(Pikes) Peak Pet Pantry is seeking donations of pet food and volunteers to help pick up and distribute food, talk to business sponsors and contact local veterinary offices. 217-9528, pikespeakpetpantry.org.

Spirit of America Response (SOAR) seeks volunteers to help with office duties as well as other programs offered by the organization. Call or go online for more info. 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

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How to Submit a Listing

Listings is a free service we offer to our readers. If you'd like to publicize an event or notice, send us the details — who, what, where, when, how much and publishable contact information — in writing **by Wednesday at noon for the following Wednesday's paper**. If humanly possible, please do so at csindy.com: Simply click "Submit an event" at the bottom of the homepage, and the rest is self-explanatory. Other means of submission include e-mail (listings@csindy.com) or fax (577-4107). One-time events typically make it into the issue on the Wednesday leading up to that event; ongoing events sometimes are included in additional issues. That said, events are included on a space-available basis, meaning we can't ever guarantee a listing will make it into print. So we strongly discourage relying on Listings as your sole source of publicity — if you'd like to guarantee placement in the *Indy*, you can purchase an ad in our classifieds section or in our retail advertising section by calling 577-4545. Questions? E-mail listings@csindy.com or call 577-4545.

StrangerThanFiction

Curses, foiled again

An officer who noticed that a padlocked gate had been knocked off its hinges at a police station parking lot in Germantown, Md., saw no vehicle but spotted a license plate and parts of a headlight. The officer traced the plate to a Ford Explorer owned by Kevin N. Osburnsen, 50. Officers who went to his home found a parked Explorer missing a plate and with "fresh damage" to a headlight and front bumper, according to police Capt. Luther Reynolds, who reported Osburnsen was charged with drunken driving and leaving the scene of an accident. (*The Washington Post*)

When Khalil Bailey, 27, tried but failed to buy a pair of new limited-edition Nike sneakers five days before their official release, police in Middletown, Pa., said he broke into the shoe store and stole four pairs of the shoes. A store manager noticed the shoes were missing but couldn't find evidence of a break-in. Ten days later, however, she discovered pry marks on the back door and reviewed the surveillance video. It showed Bailey wearing a pair of the $200 shoes before they went on sale, Nicastro said, calling Bailey "a dopey criminal." (*Bucks County Courier Times*)

Problem solved

Missouri state Rep. Mike Leara proposed legislation making it a felony for lawmakers to propose legislation "that further restricts an individual's right to bear arms." Explaining he introduced the bill after other lawmakers proposed banning assault rifles and high-capacity gun magazines from being manufactured or carried in Missouri, Leara declared, "There have to be consequences for removing our constitutional rights." (The Huffington Post)

Slippery boars

Intending to reduce the sprawling wild boar population in Belgium's northern forests, wildlife officials near Postel organized a hunt and enlisted 200 hunters. They managed to kill only one of the animals. Dirk Bogaert, of the Flemish Agency of Nature and Forestry, reported hunters spotted groups of about 60 animals but, except for the one they did kill, the others slipped away, with some possibly fleeing across the border into the Netherlands. The agency said the hunters would share equally in the one animal they did shoot. (Reuters)

Slightest provocation

Police charged Shaquina S. Hill, 23, with threatening an 18-year-old woman in Niagara Falls, N.Y., with box cutters, throwing a ceramic vase and a coffee table at her and then punching her in the chest during an argument over mashed potatoes. (*The Buffalo News*)

Bombs away

Anticipating federal regulations for commercial drones in 2015, a San Francisco research lab launched Burrito Bomber, a automated Mexican food delivery system. Its creators at Darwin Aerospace said they got the idea from a taco-delivery drone concept that never materialized but went viral on the Internet. Darwin Aerospace's video on YouTube shows a Darwin engineer setting a GPS location for the Burrito Bomber drone while another loads a burrito into a canister with a parachute attached. Once airborne, the drone flies to the location and drops the canister to the recipient, who takes a bite. "We chose burritos because Mexican food is really popular, and the name Burrito Bomber is excellent," engineer John Boiles said. "Plus, burritos are kind of bomb-shaped." (*U.S. News & World Report*)

Putincare

President Vladimir Putin ordered Russia's government to increase life expectancy to 74 years by 2018. Last year, it was 66.5 years, compared with 78.5 years in the United States. Putin is 60. (*The Washington Post*)

Old habits die hard

Police charged Daniel H. Richardson, 53, with robbing the same Washington, D.C., convenience store four times in 10 weeks. He had worked at the store, located around the corner from his home, but was fired for stealing merchandise off the shelves. He was awaiting trial at the time of his arrest. After police spotted him outside his home wearing pajamas, he explained that he was headed back to the store because his girlfriend had berated him for stealing only $35 cash, four packs of cigarettes and a doughnut, and ordered him to go get more. (*The Washington Post*)

Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.

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CannaBiz

Medical marijuana news of the week

Everybody must get stoned

It's hard to read much of anything these days without coming across a piece asserting that support for cannabis is as high as it's ever been. The latest is *Mother Jones'* Feb. 28 offering.

"On Tuesday, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder told America to expect a decision 'soon' on how he'll respond to the recent legalization of pot by **Colorado** and **Washington** state," wrote Josh Harkinson. "To which the rest of the country has basically said, 'Whatever, dude.' The same day, legislative committees in **New Mexico** and **Hawaii** approved bills to decriminalize marijuana possession and **Oregon** lawmakers introduced a legalization bill."

Not to say that there aren't still contrarians out there: A Feb. 25 op-ed in the *Arizona Capitol Times* declared, "Marijuana legalization is far from inevitable."

Maybe so, but there are piles of political capital being spent toward that end, as well as the furthering of medicinal cannabis, as these headlines from recent press releases sent by the Marijuana Policy Project show.

• From Feb. 21: "**Maine** Could Become Next State to Regulate and Tax Marijuana Like Alcohol," "**Maryland** State Lawmakers to Consider Regulating and Taxing Marijuana Like Alcohol."

• From Feb. 26: "**New Hampshire** Lawmakers Discuss Medical Marijuana Legislation," "State Lawmakers to Hold Hearing Wednesday on Bill to Regulate and Tax Marijuana Like Alcohol in **Rhode Island**."

• From Feb. 28: "**Florida** State Lawmakers Will Consider Medical Marijuana Bill."

Then take into consideration that the Feb. 27 Field Poll found 54 percent of **California** residents support legalizing and taxing marijuana like alcohol — "four percentage points higher than the last time Field pollsters posed the questions," wrote the Associated Press — and it's clear this joint is rolling.

Keef crumbs

• The **task force** convened by Gov. John Hickenlooper to review the implementation of Amendment 64 finished its work last Thursday. Among the multitude of issues sent to the Colorado Legislature are recommendations to allow out-of-state residents to purchase pot in limited quantities, mandates on the labeling and advertising of the substance, and an endorsement of House Bill 1114, the THC DUI bill.

The state has until July 1 to finalize regulations.

• Speaking of, **HB 1114** passed its first test last week when it was approved 11-0 by the House Judiciary Committee, reports the *Denver Post*. "We have to treat marijuana like alcohol and that is what this bill attempts to do," the paper quoted Colorado Springs Rep. Pete Lee as saying. It's now headed to the House Appropriations Committee.

• On Saturday, the *Greeley Tribune* wrote about **Jeremy Usher**, a former member of the U.S. Navy violating his parole by treating his PTSD with marijuana. Read more at tinyurl.com/ptsd5.

— Bryce Crawford

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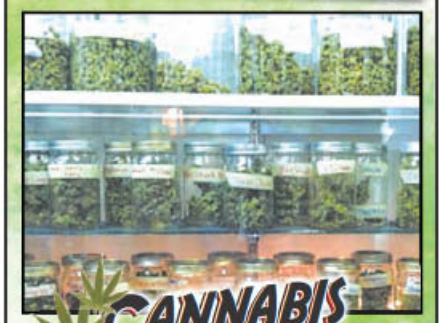

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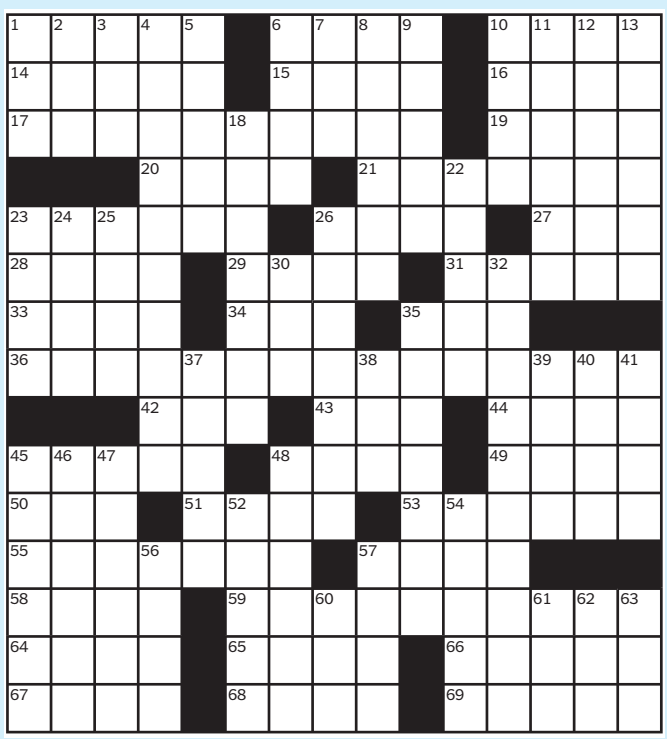

The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS

1 Muscles strengthened by squats
6 Shul attendees
10 Easy-to-spread cheese
14 Zac of "High School Musical"
15 "Don't worry about me"
16 Course list
17 Coming on to a patient, perhaps?
19 Way off
20 Piltdown man, for one
21 Deny membership to skater Starbuck?
23 Agree to
26 Kedrova of "Zorba the Greek"
27 Genre that includes freestyling
28 Up time
29 Cyberspace 'zine
31 Less-than sign's keymate
33 First name in scat
34 "Make my ___!"
35 Shiverer's sound
36 Dictator's directive at a dance club?
42 Seek pocket change, say
43 Itinerary word
44 Close to closed
45 "Taras Bulba" author
48 Marijuana, informally
49 Seeker of illicit 48-Across
50 Hollywood's Gardner
51 Cowardly Lion portrayer
53 New York site of Mark Twain's grave
55 Bad-mouth designer Chanel?
57 "Mon ___!"
58 Radio City's architectural style
59 "Strive for medium quality on this one"?
64 Cheese that doesn't spoil
65 Painter Nolde
66 Muslim woman's veil
67 Idiot
68 Onion rings, e.g.
69 Potentially dangerous strain

DOWN

1 Proof letters
2 Area 51 craft, supposedly
3 Part of a curve
4 Dance to Tito Puente, say
5 Buttinsky
6 Give bad luck
7 Rock subgenre
8 Hit the jackpot
9 Toast word
10 Key using all the black keys: Abbr.
11 Go straight
12 Facing big trouble
13 Moon of Jupiter
18 Suitable for most audiences
22 Decorative inlay material
23 First fratricide victim
24 Nat or Natalie
25 Gelding-to-be, maybe
26 Break between flights
30 Fannie ___
32 Sunday hymn accompaniment
35 2002 sequel starring Wesley Snipes
37 Mello ___ (soft drink)
38 Budget chart shape
39 City near Santa Barbara
40 Teri of "Tootsie"
41 Ocean predator
45 Traipsed (about)
46 City of northern Spain
47 Often-removed car part
48 Amnesiac's question
52 Topmost points
54 Hades' river of forgetfulness
56 Command to Fido
57 Editorial strike-out
60 Give a ribbing
61 Spanish eye
62 ___ ammoniac
63 Geisha's accessory

For puzzle answers, please see pg. 61

From NYT Syndicate

AdviceGoddess

By Amy Alkon

Hawaii Five-No

Ten years ago, my friend and I met our husbands on the same night (they were friends who challenged us to a game of pool), and we both got married the same year. We all pledged to spend our 10th anniversary in Hawaii together, but my friend's husband is making it difficult, saying no to every flight, activity and hotel my friend and I propose. He'll call a hotel "overrated" or "too touristy," but his one bad quality is that he's seriously cheap, and it's becoming clear that he's trying to torpedo the whole vacation because of it. (They are well-off, by the way!) He keeps joking that we should just stay home and celebrate — but I don't think he's really joking. I'm angry with my friend for never telling her husband to curb his cheapness and for not standing up for our plans and worried that my anger could affect our friendship. — Frustrated

While the Hawaiian islands are home to some of the world's most beautiful tropical gardens, your friend's husband would like to point out that your hometown boasts not just one but several Olive Gardens. (You can still wear leis!)

Your friend probably feels embarrassed about her husband's tightwaddy ways (and her inability to change them) but probably feels disloyal saying so. Still, despite how the man must get blisters from clinging so tight to a dollar, being married to him must work for her. (You don't mention anything about his being horrible to her or even just making her persistently unhappy, like by promising to have children with her and then insisting they have goldfish instead because they're cheaper.)

The origins of his cheapitude may be in his upbringing.

To feel less suckered, try to have some sympathy for the guy, who probably isn't cheap just to irritate you and everyone he knows. People say "money talks." To him, it probably says stuff like, "If I leave you, I'm never coming back!" The origins of his cheapitude may be in his upbringing — and may even be in his genes, according to a 2010 study by Dr. Itamar Simonson and Dr. Aner Sela surveying attitudes about risk and spending in identical and fraternal twins. As in other studies, identical twins (who are born from a single egg and are thus genetically identical) were significantly more alike in a number of measures, including how risk- and loss-averse they were, suggesting a genetic component to being a cheap mofo.

Swap your anger at your friend for acceptance of reality: She isn't able to stand up to him, and he isn't able to say yes to spending money on a pricey vacation when he probably spends much of his life worrying that he'll someday have to pawn a kidney to buy groceries. Tell your friend — sans animosity — that you're weary of searching, you're booking a hotel, and you hope they'll join you if it works for them. Who knows, when you're all looking at celebrating your 20th together — maybe on a tropical cruise! — things may be different.

Not because either of them is likely to change but because Orbitz may start offering great deals on floating to Hawaii on pieces of broken barrels.

Beta path to love

Those in the "Pickup Artist" community claim that looks don't matter; it's all about technique. Well, I've got the techniques down, and I'm still always going home alone, whereas my friend is constantly hooking up. He's a 6-foot-2, traditionally handsome alpha male. (He looks like he could have been a quarterback.) I'm 5-9, with a face grandmas love to pinch. I could lose some weight, but I've been told I'm cute and have beautiful eyes. Am I looking for excuses, or is technique not all it's cracked up to be? — Overlooked

Any guy can learn Pickup Artist techniques. Any guy who is 6-2 and has a jawline like cut glass is more likely to have them pay off. In fact, certain guys — the cuddly grandma-pleasers — may be wasting their time trying to get casual sex. As evolutionary psychologists Dr. Glenn Geher and Dr. Scott Barry Kaufman write in *Mating Intelligence Unleashed*, research suggests that men who are not "tall, masculine, muscular, facially attractive, and socially dominant ... are not likely to be successful in short-term mating." Geher and Kaufman suggest that guys who lack that "constellation of features" are probably better off taking the long view — developing relationships with women seeking partners instead of hookup partners.

In doing that, they say technique also matters — being assertive, confident, easygoing and sensitive (without being wimpy). Follow their advice and in addition to all the women putting their hands on you in an "Oh, those dimples! Grandma's gonna eat you up!" kind of way, you should eventually have one doing it in an "I sure hope my late grandma can't see what we're about to do" kind of way.

***Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail adviceamy@aol.com (advicegoddess.com). Alkon is the author of* I See Rude People: One Woman's Battle To Beat Some Manners Into Impolite Society.**

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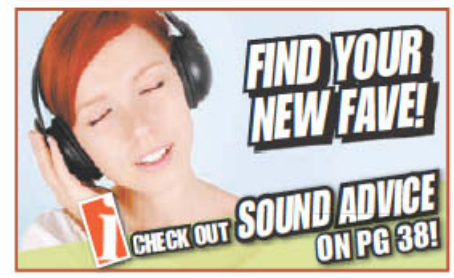

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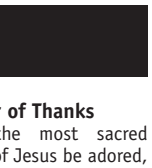

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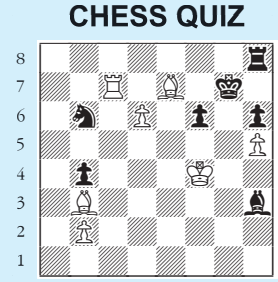

WHITE HAS A CRUSHER
Hint: Win the rook or mate.

For puzzle answers, see page 61

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Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contain the numbers 1 to 9. Use logic to define the answers. Answers on page 61

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FreeWillAstrology

By Rob Brezsny

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "Telling someone your goal makes it less likely to happen," says musician and businessman Derek Sivers. Numerous studies demonstrate that when you talk about your great new idea before you actually do it, your brain chemistry does an unexpected thing. It gives you the feeling that you have already accomplished the great new idea — thereby sapping your willpower to make the effort necessary to accomplish it! The moral of the story: Don't brag about what you're going to do someday. Don't entertain people at parties with your fabulous plans. Shut up and get to work. This is especially important advice for you right now.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Maybe you're not literally in exile. You haven't been forced to abandon your home and haven't been driven from your power spot against your will. But you may nevertheless be feeling banished or displaced. It could be due to one of the conditions that storyteller Michael Meade names: "We may experience exile as a lack of recognition, a period of transition, an identity crisis, a place of stuckness, or else having a gift and no place to give it." Do any of those describe your current predicament, Aries? The good news, Meade says, is that exile can shock you awake to the truth about where you belong. It can rouse your irrepressible motivation to get back to your rightful place.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do you have a recurring nightmare that has plagued you? If so, I suspect it will recur again soon. Only this time, Taurus, you will beat it. You will trick or escape or defeat the monster that's chasing you. Or else you will outrun the molten lava or disperse the tornado or fly up off the ground until the earth stops shaking. Congratulations on this epic shift, Taurus. Forever after you will have more power over the scary thing that has had so much power over you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The following request for advice appeared on reddit.com: "My identical twin is stuck in an alternate dimension and she can only communicate with me by appearing as my own reflection in mirrors and windows. How can I tell her I don't like what she's done to her hair?" This question is a variant of a type of dilemma that many of you Geminis are experiencing right now, so I'll respond to it here. I'm happy to say that you will soon get an unprecedented chance to commune directly with your alter egos. Your evil twin will be more available than usual to engage in meaningful dialog. So will your doppelganger, your shadow, your mirror self and your stuntperson.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Usually I advise Cancerians to draw up precise borders and maintain clear boundaries. As a Crab myself, I know how important it is for our well-being that we neither leak our life force all over everything nor allow others to leak their life force all over us. We thrive on making definitive choices and strong commitments. We get into trouble when we're wishy-washy about what we want. OK. Having said all that fatherly stuff, I now want to grant you a partial and temporary license to get a little wild and fuzzy. Don't overdo it, of course, but explore the smart fun you can have by breaking some of your own rules and transgressing some of the usual limits.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the course of formulating his theory of evolution, Charles Darwin read many books. He developed a rather ruthless approach to getting what he needed out of them. If there was a particular part of a book that he didn't find useful, he simply tore it out, cast it aside, and kept the rest. I recommend this as a general strategy for you in the coming week, Leo. In every situation you're in, figure out what's most valuable to you and home in on that. For now, forget the irrelevant and extraneous stuff.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Here's a passage from Charles Dickens' novel *Great Expectations*: "It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." Judging from the astrological omens, Virgo, I suspect your life may be like that in the coming days. The emotional tone could be sharply mixed, with high contrasts between vivid sensations. The nature of your opportunities may seem warm and bright one moment, cool and dark the next. If you regard this as interesting rather than difficult, it won't be a problem, but rather an adventure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "I worked as a hair stylist in Chicago's Gold Coast for 20 years with some of the most gorgeous woman and men in the world," writes sculptor Rich Thomson. "Once I asked a photographer who shot for the big magazines how he picked out the very best models from among all these great-looking people. His response: 'Flaws. Our flaws are what make us interesting, special and exotic. They define us.'" My challenge to you, Libra, is to meditate on how your supposed imperfections and oddities are essential to your unique beauty. It's a perfect moment to celebrate — and make good use of — your idiosyncrasies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The genius of Leonardo da Vinci was in part fueled by his buoyant curiosity. In his work as an artist, musician, inventor, engineer and writer, he drew inspiration from pretty much everything. He's your role model for the coming week, Scorpio. Just assume that you will find useful cues and clues wherever you go. Act as if the world is full of teachers who have revelations and guidance specifically meant for you. Here's some advice from da Vinci himself: "It should not be hard for you to stop sometimes and look into the stains of walls, or ashes of a fire, or clouds, or mud or like places, in which, if you consider them well, you may find really marvelous ideas."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Ready for a reality check? It's time to assess how well you know the fundamental facts about where you are located. So let me ask you: Do you know which direction north is? Where does the water you drink come from? What phase of the moon is it today? What was the indigenous culture that once lived where you live now? Where is the power plant that generates the electricity you use? Can you name any constellations that are currently in the night sky? What species of trees do you see every day? Use these questions as a starting point as you deepen your connection with your specific neighborhood on planet Earth. Get yourself grounded!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There's a writer I know whose work is brilliant. Her ideas are fascinating. She's a champion of political issues I hold dear. She's well-read and smarter than me. Yet her speech is careless and sloppy. She rambles and interrupts herself. She says "uh," "you know," and "I mean" so frequently that I find it hard to listen, even when she's saying things I admire. I considered telling her about this, but decided against it. She's an acquaintance, not a friend. Instead, I resolved to clean up my own speech — to make sure I don't do anything close to what she does. This is a strategy I suggest for you, Capricorn: Identify interesting people who are not fully living up to their potential, and change yourself in the exact ways you wish they would change.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The German word *Verschlimmbesserung* refers to an attempted improvement that actually makes things worse. Be on guard against this, Aquarius. I fear that as you tinker, you may try too hard. I'm worried you'll be led astray by neurotic perfectionism. To make sure that your enhancements and enrichments will indeed be successful, keep these guidelines in mind: 1. Think about how to make things work better, not how to make things look better. 2. Be humble and relaxed. Don't worry about saving face and don't overwork yourself. 3. Forget about short-term fixes; serve long-range goals.

HOMEWORK: Describe how you plan to shake off some of your tame and overly civilized behavior. Testify at freewillastrology.com.

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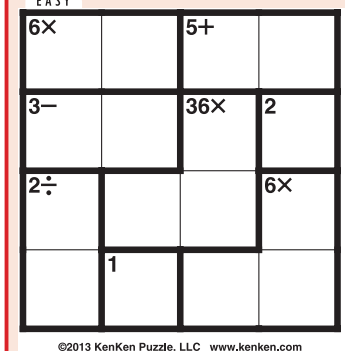

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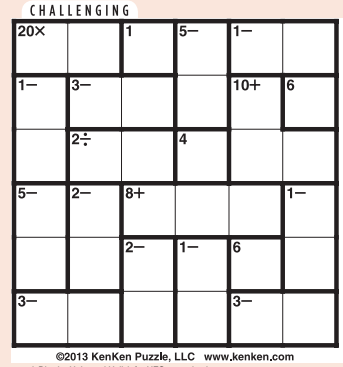

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Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a number in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined cage will produce the target number show by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. A 4x4 grid uses the digits 1,2,3,4, while a 6x6 grid uses the numbers 1-6.

For puzzle answers, see page 61

RULES

1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

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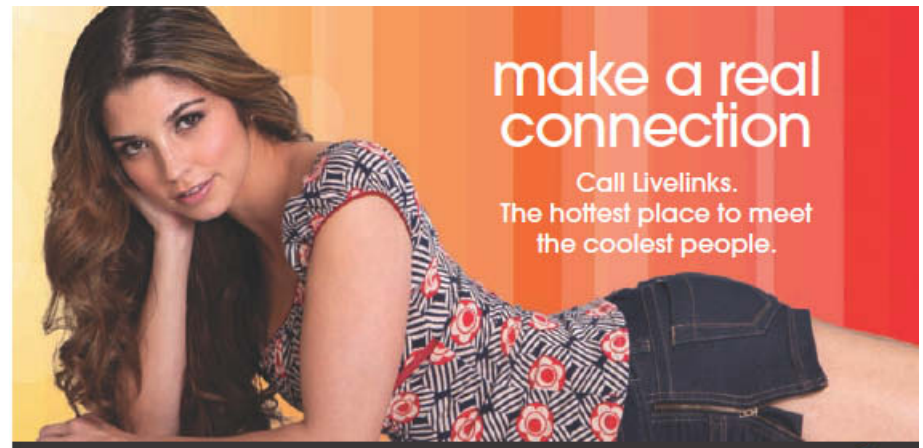

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Crossword

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CHESS QUIZ

From page 58:
1. Bxf6ch Kf8 2. Bxh8. If instead 1. … Kxf6, 2. Rf7 mate!

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EndZone

By Ralph Routon

Two teams, two tales

Everything that local college hockey fans have felt about Air Force and Colorado College during this up-and-down winter stood out on full display last weekend.

Air Force, after months of battling its way up the Atlantic Hockey Association standings, suddenly closed out its regular-season schedule with a stunning home sweep of nationally ranked Niagara, 5-2 and 6-1. Those outcomes, especially the second one, sent a clear signal that the Falcons have a shot once again at earning the AHA's bid to the NCAA Tournament — which had looked to be a near-certainty for Niagara.

Air Force wound up second to Niagara entering the playoffs, but if it comes down to one last game in a few weeks at the conference tournament with that NCAA berth on the line, the Falcons have the mental edge now.

SPORTS SHOT

Pay attention This version of the Denver Nuggets looks more and more capable of going far in the playoffs, thanks largely to head coach George Karl.

Looking good If third-base prospect Nolan Arenado stays hot in spring games (.412 with four homers as of Monday), the Rockies will have to keep him instead of sending him to Colorado Springs as planned.

No shows Don't expect to see the traditional flyovers at Air Force football games this season — they're already canceled through September because of the federal budget cuts.

Tough draw Colorado's 24-5 women's basketball team, led by senior Chucky Jeffery of Colorado Springs, is seeded No. 4 in the Pac-12 tournament this week, looking destined for a semifinal showdown against powerhouse Stanford.

Meanwhile, down I-25 on the World Arena ice, Colorado College was demonstrating once again why it's a year away from resurfacing as a team worthy of NCAA dreams. In their final home series, the Tigers broke out late to whip Minnesota State Mankato by a 4-1 score on Friday — then suffered a 7-2 thumping on Saturday.

That means CC can finish no better than eighth in its final Western Collegiate Hockey Association regular season, regardless of what happens in its last pre-playoff series this week at Michigan Tech. And with the standings still so jumbled above them, the Tigers' first-round postseason opponent, on the road, could be Mankato, Wisconsin, Nebraska-Omaha or Denver.

We knew all along, starting with bleak preseason predictions in the WCHA and warnings from head coach **Scott Owens**, that CC would be inexperienced and inconsistent this year, and an 0-6-1 stretch from Dec. 1 into January officially confirmed that. But now, after going 4-2-3 in their past nine games, the Tigers could pull a surprise or two in the playoffs. Just don't expect them to win the WCHA's postseason tournament and its Broadmoor Trophy, which CC hasn't been able to hoist — ever.

That Broadmoor Trophy is a story unto itself. It was donated by the Broadmoor in 1981 to go to the WCHA's regular-season champion, replacing the MacNaughton Cup. Michigan Tech, which technically "owned" the cup, left the league in 1981 for the Central Collegiate Hockey Association and took it to the CCHA. Three years later, when Tech returned to the WCHA, the MacNaughton Cup came back as well, again going to the regular-season champion — and the Broadmoor Trophy has gone to the WCHA postseason champion ever since.

Just one problem: That trophy (redesigned in 2010 by Blue Ribbon Trophies of Colorado Springs) never has resided in its birthplace. Even when the Tigers came so close to national titles in the past two decades, they couldn't pull off that WCHA tourney title. And now, with the WCHA splintering (thanks to the Big Ten) and Colorado College heading for the new National Collegiate Hockey Conference, this likely will be the final chance — unless the NCHC decides to pursue obtaining the trophy from the WCHA. It still could happen, but don't count on it. Too bad, since hockey usually appreciates its history.

So now Colorado College looks to be no more than a short-term spoiler in March, while Air Force gears up for another playoff run in the less prestigious AHA.

AFA head coach **Frank Serratore** has become a master at this, and he's been smartly realistic to make sure his program doesn't try to "move up" into an elite conference where the Falcons likely would be in over their head.

The result has been steady success at Air Force, while CC has remained respectable but constantly challenged when facing elite programs with far more resources.

How far can the Falcons go this time? And will the Tigers make more noise than anyone expects?

It should make for an eventful March — as always.

— routon@csindy.com

RangerRich

By Rich Tosches

It's a dog's life

Today we will discuss an important civic award given by our highly esteemed mayor to a dog named **Swagger**, causing him to get so excited that he ran outside City Hall, peed on a fire hydrant and bit a mailman.

While the dog waited patiently inside.

After we are done making fun of the mayor — which may take a while — we'll turn our attention to someone else who made Colorado Springs proud last week by telling a state lawmaker that he hopes she gets shot in the head.

I'm talking, of course, about firearms enthusiast **Frank Sain**. Or as his friends call him, "Frank N. Sain."

Back to City Hall, where Mayor **Steve** "Age Is Only A State Of ... Uh, What Was I Saying?" **Bach** presented a Spirit of the Springs award to the dog. He continued the canine theme later in the day by neutering our City Council.

"Swagger is an unbelievable dog," the mayor said during the ceremony. "This is the first time we've presented an award to a dog."

The event was then briefly interrupted as the mayor's staff ran to the podium and licked the mayor's face, just as he trained them to do. He gave each of them a small biscuit and scratched Minister of Propaganda **Laura Neumann** behind the ear. (She responded by wagging her tail and announcing that the village will no longer release any information about anything.)

He peed on a fire hydrant and bit a mailman.

Swagger is an English Sheepdog, which is just like a regular sheepdog except with crooked teeth. I'm just kidding. The dog is perfect. His owner and handler, **Colton Johnson**, co-owns the Sunrise and Woodmen Kennels on the north end of our town.

Swagger — whose actual registered name is **Bugaboo's Picture Perfect** — took reserve best-in-show and the top prize in the herding group at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show last month.

All of that was noted by Mayor Bach, whose actual registered name is **Sir Snarlalot With The Dyed Fur**.

American Kennel Club historians say it was the first time a sheepdog accepted an award from a pit bull.

In the running, perhaps, to win the next Spirit of the Springs award is villager Franklin Glenn Sain.

Sain was upset by state Rep. **Rhonda Fields**' call to tighten state gun laws and prevent lunatics from getting firearms. So, police say, he threatened to shoot Fields and her daughter.

Making it even more disgusting is this: Fields' son, who was in 2005 set to testify in Denver about how drug dealers killed his friend, was shot to death by another, uh, gun enthusiast.

"I keep my 30 Round Magazines. There Will Be Blood! I'm Coming For You!" Sain wrote so eloquently in a letter that police say he sent to Fields.

Officials say Sain, who has been arrested, also said he hoped Fields and state Rep. **Beth McCann** would meet the same fate as **Gabrielle Giffords**, the Arizona congresswoman who was shot in the head by another big supporter of the Second Amendment.

"Hopefully somebody Gifords [sic] both of your asses with a gun," the letter said.

Sain, an Iraqi war veteran, is — get this — the chief operating officer of an IT consulting firm, SofTec Solutions, in Englewood. (I bet that was an interesting job interview.)

Here now, an excerpt from an actual statement issued by Sain's lawyers, **Siddhartha Rathod** and **Qusair Mohamedbhai**:

"We are deeply concerned about the government's retaliation against Mr. Sain for his protected First Amendment political speech. ... Representative Fields appears to be furthering her political agenda by trampling on Mr. Sain's constitutionally protected free speech ..."

Of the e-mails, voice mails and letter threatening to kill Rep. Fields and her daughter along with Rep. McCann, lawyer Rathod told the *Denver Post*, "None of the statements attributed to Mr. Sain rise to the level of criminal conduct."

I could leave you with a final thought about Mr. Sain and his two brilliant lawyers, but instead I will let Swagger the sheepdog leave it.

On the sidewalk. After a big meal.

***Rich Tosches (rangerrich@csindy.com) also writes a Sunday column in the* Denver Post.**

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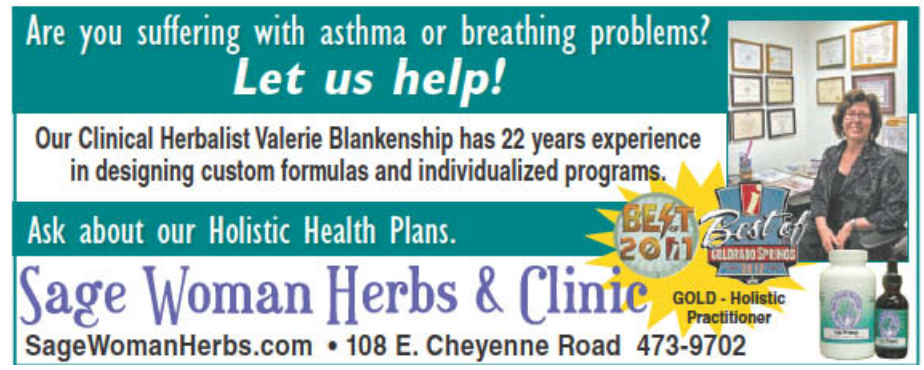
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